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1808.

*W.H. 312
Gallup
Historical
Association
Oct 5 1899*

HISTORY

OF

NORWALK TOWNSHIP

HURON COUNTY, OHIO,

TAKEN FROM

WILLIAMS' HISTORY OF HURON AND ERIE COUNTIES.

PREPARED BY C. H. GALLUP.

1879.

2

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ERRATUM.

Page 113—Total for Wheatstrough "*\$111.00.*" instead of *\$2.50.*

Page 123—First birth was "*December 12, 1812.*"

Page 123—Read 15th of "*May,*" instead of April.

Page 133—Read "*Dr. John Wood,*" instead of John McLean.

Page 137—Read "*forty-five times,*" instead of forty.

Page 147—Read Huron Royal Arch Chapter No. "*45*" instead of 4.

Page 148—Charter returned "*1835,*" instead of 1848.

Page 150—To children of William Gallup (5th), add, after Mrs. Lytle: "*Elizabeth,*

(Mrs. Frederick Hunt) now of Greeley, Colorado."

Pages 182, 183 and 184 do not belong to the History of Norwalk.

HISTORY

OF

TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN HURON COUNTY.

NORWALK.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

IN 1840, the Indian title to the land upon which Norwalk, Connecticut, now stands, was purchased of the natives in two tracts.

The bounds of the east tract purchased by Roger Ludlow, as described in the ancient records, were "from Norwalk river to Sawhatuck (Saugatuck) river, from sea, Indian one-day walk into the country." For this tract the following articles were given, to wit: "Eight fathom wampum, six coats, ten hatchets, ten hoes, ten knives, ten seizers, ten juse-harps, ten fathom tobacco, three kettles, three hands-about, ten looking-glasses."

The tract on the west side of the river, sold to one Captain Patrick, is described as follows: "From Norwalk river to Five Mile river, from sea, Indian one day in country." For this the following articles were given: "Ten fathom wampum, three hatchets, three hoes, when ship comes; six glasses, twelve tobacco pipes, three knives, ten drillers, ten needles."

The northern bounds of the lands purchased were to be from the sea one day's north walk into the country—hence the name Norwalk.

The above explanation of the *origin* of the name is, in substance, given in Barber's *Historical Collections*, Hall's *Historical Records of Norwalk*, and Lossing's *Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution*, and perhaps should be accepted as conclusive; but it has always been a query with the writer, what the name of "Norwalk river" was at the time of the purchase. If it was then Norwalk river, the name Norwalk could not have been derived from terms used in describing that purchase; if it bore some other name, it would appear singular that the "ancient records" should describe the boundaries as beginning "From Norwalk river."

THE TOWNSHIP NAMED.

On the 9th day of November, 1808, Philip B. Bradley, of Ridgefield; Taylor Sherman, of Norwalk; Isaac

Mills, of New Haven; William Eldridge, of New London; Jabez Fitch, of Greenwich; Ebenezer Jessup, of Fairfield; Guy Richards, of New London; Ebenezer Avery, Jr., of Groton, all of the State of Connecticut, met as the Board of Directors of "the proprietors of the half million acres of land lying south of Lake Erie, called the Sufferers' Land," at the court-house, in New Haven, Connecticut; and, among other business transacted that day, passed a resolution naming all the townships in the "Fire Lands." In and by that resolution, township number four in the twenty-second range was named Norwalk.

Taylor Sherman was the only member of that board from Norwalk, Connecticut, and probably stood sponsor at the christening. He was the grandfather of Gen. W. T. Sherman, who led that magnificent column of American veterans on its memorable march from "Atlanta to the sea;" and of John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury, who to-day stands before the nations as first of financiers.

ORIGIN OF LAND TITLES.

July 11, 1797, Norwalk, Connecticut, was burned by the British and Tories under Governor Tryon. A committee of the General Assembly estimated the losses by the inhabitants at one hundred and sixteen thousand two hundred and thirty-eight dollars and sixty-six cents. Half a million acres of land in "New Connecticut" was appropriated for the benefit of those sufferers, and those of other towns which had suffered a like calamity.

The left hand column in the following table shows the name and amount of losses, in pounds, shillings and pence, of each Norwalk sufferer. The right hand column shows the names of the persons to whom their claims were paid in land. For a more full and particular account of the classification and payment of those claims, see the general county history.

NORWALK. TOWN NUMBER FOUR, IN THE TWENTY-SECOND RANGE.

CLASSIFICATION No. 1, SECTION 1.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hannah Hooker	211	13	9	Haynes Fitch	21	13	9
James Fitch	219	9	5	"	219	9	5
Haynes Fitch, two losses	89	11	3	"	89	11	3
Jacob Jennings	22	5	6	Jacob Jennings	22	5	6
Edward Woodworth	80	13	4	Stephen Wood	80	13	4
Ebenezer Whitney	68	13	9	Sam'l Middlebrook	11	2	11 1/2
Benj. Betts, Jr.	3	10	"	"	3	10	"
Michael Morehouse, Jr.	7	7	4	"	7	7	4
Michael Morehouse	4	3	"	"	4	3	"
Andrew Morehouse	1	16	"	"	1	16	"
Elizabeth Gaylord	5	8	"	"	5	8	"
Samuel Banal	30	18	6	"	30	18	6
Nehemiah St. John	89	9	6	"	29	15	4
Samuel Comstock	2	0	"	"	2	0	"
Ephraim Stewart	5	4	4	"	5	4	4
Thaddeus Keeler	2	5	10	"	2	5	10
Elizabeth Dunning	7	1	4	"	7	1	4
Silas Hickock	3	12	6	"	3	12	6
Nathan Hickock	2	5	3	"	2	5	3
Nathaniel Street	23	12	9	"	1	0	11 1/4
Jesse Burchard	7	12	"	"	7	12	"
John Benedict	172	12	8	"	172	12	8
Daniel Jackson	53	2	5	"	53	2	5
Samuel Keeler	30	14	"	"	30	14	"
Benjamin Peck	23	16	9	"	23	16	9
James Brown	15	5	5 1/2	"	15	5	5 1/2
Amos Reynolds	22	2	9	"	22	2	9
John Carey	11	4	"	"	11	4	"
Deborah Dickinson	17	2	6	Deborah Dickinson	17	2	6
Moses Dickinson's heirs	259	16	10	Sarah Dickinson	56	12	3
Moses Dickinson's heirs	259	16	10	Deborah Dickinson	173	4	7
Hannah Dickinson	35	19	9	Hannah Dickinson	23	14	9
Flat Townsend	2	17	"	Eliza Lillibridge	2	17	"
Daniel Thatcher's heirs	315	17	"	Daniel Thatcher's heirs	113	13	"
James Smith	21	13	"	Committee	5	18	6

Footing of Classification No. 1. £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 2, SECTION 2.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stephen Lockwood	18	12	"	Stephen Lockwood	18	12	"
Thaddeus Betts, two losses	272	17	9	"	272	17	9
James Crowley	2	14	7	"	2	14	7
Gershorn Hyatt	32	5	"	"	32	5	"
Simon Haywood	442	7	3 1/2	Thomas Comstock	442	7	3 1/2
Thomas Benedict	779	1	10	Thomas Benedict	362	14	5
John Rich	72	6	"	John Rich's heirs	71	18	11 1/2

Footing of Classification No. 2. £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 3, SECTION 3.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Nathan Jarvis	279	7	6	Stephen Lockwood	219	16	3
Daniel Hanford's two losses	323	16	4	"	323	16	4
Gold Hoyt	125	8	"	Thomas Comstock	195	8	"
James Hoyt's heirs	26	2	"	"	26	2	"
Thomas Benedict	779	1	10	Thomas Benedict	376	10	5
Matthew Keeler	165	10	"	Isaac Keeler	32	15	5
Jesse Benedict	114	7	5	Jesse Benedict	114	7	5
Matthew Keeler	165	10	10	Jonathan Rings	32	15	5
Joseph Marvin	158	10	1	"	58	10	1
Obediah Siscat	3	0	"	"	3	0	"
Rebecca Smith	3	2	9	"	3	2	9
Isaac Waring	3	10	"	"	3	10	"
James Hitchcock	19	8	6	"	4	2	10
Thomas Hayes	18	0	"	"	16	14	8
Deborah Peck	22	0	"	"	5	2	"
Samuel Kitchum	1	1	6	"	1	2	4
Joshua Rogers	11	15	3	"	2	1	"
Mary Avery	11	2	6	"	10	19	"

Footing of Classification No. 3. £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 4, SECTION 4.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Capt. Josiah Starr	12	5	8	Josiah Starr	14	5	8
Joshua Starr	4	16	"	"	4	16	"
Josiah Starr	9	3	8	"	9	3	8
Ezra Starr	"	"	"	"	400	4	8
Ezra Starr	1,211	11	4	Comfort S. Meggett	190	5	0
Dr. John Wood	262	15	11	His heirs	362	15	11
Ezra Starr	1,211	11	4	William Taylor in right of wife	184	0	"
John McLean	328	7	1	"	69	13	1

Footing of Classification No. 4. £1,344 7 0

ORGANIZATION.

At the commencement of the year 1817, Norwalk formed part of the territory of the then extensive township of Huron.

Early in that year, a petition for a separate organization was drawn up and signed by a number of citizens, but how many, or whom, cannot now be ascertained, the writer having made a diligent search for the original paper among the public files without success.

In pursuance of that petition, at a meeting of the Commissioners of Huron county, held on the 18th day of February, 1817, the following order was made:

On the petition of David Gibbs and others we set off the townships of Bronson and Norwalk (being numbers three and four in the twenty-second range of townships in Huron county) from the township of Huron, to be organized into a separate township by the name of Norwalk.

By order of the Commissioners.
Attest: FREDERICK FALLY, P. T.

Frederick Fally, Ebenezer Merry and Bildad Adams were then the county commissioners, and Frederick Fally was acting as clerk for the commissioners "P. T." (*pro tem.*)

The two townships remained in that state of organization until the 8th of March, 1820, when, at a meeting of the county commissioners—present, Joseph Strong and Lyman Farwell—it was

Ordered, That towns numbers one and two, in the twenty-second range, be and the same is hereby annexed to the township of Norwalk.

And that state of organization continued until, at a meeting of the commissioners of Huron county, held on the 4th day of March, 1822—present, Eli S. Barnum, Robert S. Southgate and Amos Woodward, commissioners—it was

Ordered, That township number one, in the twenty-second range (called Ripley), be and same is hereby annexed to township number one, in the twenty-third range (called New Haven), for township purposes.

Ordered, On the petition of Edward L. Con and others, that townships numbers two and three, in the twenty-second range (the first Bronson, the second Fairfield), be organized with township privileges, and that the same be known by the name of Bronson. And notice of township meeting on the first Monday of April next, given according to law.

Attest: Moses Kimball,
Clerk and Auditor, Huron County.

Of the townships here named in parenthesis, the first should have been Fairfield, and the second Bronson, but the record stands as cited.

Thus it will be seen that from February 18, 1817, to March 8, 1820, Norwalk embraced a territory five miles wide and ten miles long, and from March 8, 1820, to March 4, 1822, its territory was five miles wide and twenty miles long, forming an election precinct which polled sixty-two votes at the first election, as appears by the certificate attached to the tally sheet of that election, now on file in the county clerk's office, which is as follows:

At a regular election of the electors in the township of Norwalk, at the house of Daniel Tipton, in said Norwalk, on the third day of April, 1820, for two justices of the peace:

We do hereby certify, that Enoch Gilbert had sixty-one votes; Samuel E. Lewis, forty-five; Luke Keeler, one; Abijah Comstock, seven; Asher Cole, one; and Joseph Pierce, three, for the offices of justices of the peace.

Attest: WM. GARDNER, FLETCHER W. DAY, ENOS GILBERT, ROBERT S. SOUTHWATE,
Clerks. Judges of Election.

At an election for sheriff, on December 6, 1820, (at which Enoch Gilbert, of Norwalk, was elected,) seventy-two votes were polled.

At an election for justice on the 2d day of April, 1821, (at which Timothy Taylor was elected) seventy-six votes were polled.

At the election for county officers, October 9, 1821, ninety-two votes were polled.

At the State election in 1827, the same territory polled for governor: Fairfield, 393; Bronson, 225; Ripley, 212; Norwalk, 1,344. Total, 2,084.

After Ripley, Fairfield and Bronson were detached from Norwalk, and at the State election of October 8, 1821, only fifty-one votes were polled in Norwalk.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FOR 1815.

(Abstract showing Norwalk.)

Duplicate of taxes laid in Huron county for the year 1815, by the county commissions of said county.

Eli S. Barnum, Caleb Palmer and Charles Parker, Commissioners.

Tax bill for the county of Huron in the year 1815:

WHEATSBOROUGH.	HURON.
Dillingham John.....\$290	Comstock, Abijah.....\$ 50
Reed, Hanson.....50	Lewis, Samuel B.....90
Wilson, James.....50	Newcomb, Benjamin.....140
550	Total for Wheat sborough.....280
250	Total for.....1110
	Huron.....5600
Total for Norwalk.....\$30	Vermillion.....2180
	Total for Huron County, \$192 40

The townships of Wheat sborough, Huron and Vermillion appear to have constituted the whole county, for purposes of taxation, at that time.

This duplicate was probably made out in the early part of the year 1815. In August, of that year, there was an entirely different arrangement of township lines established, as appears by the following extract from Volume I, page 1, of the Commissioners' Journal of Huron county:

Commissioners' Office, at county seat, August 1, 1815. First meeting held at David Abbott, Esq.

Caleb Palmer, Charles Parker and Eli S. Barnum, Commissioners.

Ichabod Marshall, Clerk, appointed *pro tem*. Abijah Comstock, appointed County Treasurer.

The new townships following are set off, viz:

1. Wayne's Reserve, at Lower Sandusky, to be known by the name of Lower Sandusky.

2. Vermillion—comprising the following tract, viz: The whole of the twentieth range of the Connecticut Western Reserve, together with all the tract of country belonging to the county of Huron, east of said twentieth range.

3. Greenfield—comprising townships numbers two and three, in the twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth ranges of the Connecticut Western Reserve.

4. New Haven—comprising number one in the twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth ranges.

By order of the Commissioners,
ICHABOD MARSHALL, Commissioners' Clerk, *pro tem*.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FOR 1819.

(Extract showing Norwalk.)

County tax assessed on the residents of Huron county for the year 1819:

Norwalk Township.	Horses.	Cattle.	Houses.
Abbot, Ezra.....	450		\$2 25
*Ammerman, Simon.....	3		30
Benedict Platt.....	2	8	1 40
Boalt, Eben.....	4		40
Boalt, John.....	2		20
Bronson Hosea.....	1		10
Cole, Levi.....	2	2	1 50
Comstock, Abijah.....	3	5	1 10
*Clark, Lester.....	1		19
*Clark, Jabez.....	1	4	76
*Cole, David.....	4		40

Norwalk Township.

Horses. Cattle. Houses.

*Clark, Halsey.....	1	4	50
*Crawford, Joseph.....		2	20
Cole, Thomas.....		2	20
*Deming, Jabez.....		3	30
Forsythe, Frederick.....	1	1	250 2 15
Fay, Lucius.....		4	40
Gibbs, David.....	1	3	80
Gibbs, Samuel R.....	1	6	90
Gilbert, Enos.....		1	10
*Guthrie, Eben.....	1	8	1 10
*Herrick, Ezra.....	1	2	50
*Herrick, Ezra Jr.....	1		30
*Hoskins, John.....		3	30
*Hagerman, Thomas.....		5	50
Houk, Henry.....	2	2	80
*Herrick, Lott.....		4	40
Isham, Epaphroditus.....		4	40
Isham, Seidon.....		1	10
Iaman, Malvira.....		3	30
*Kellogg, Martin.....	1	4	70
Keeler, Luke.....	1	4	70
Keeler John.....	2	2	80
*Lockwood, George.....	2		60
Lockwood, Henry.....	1	3	60
Laylin, John.....	1	1	40
Laylin, Charles.....		1	10
Lewis, Samuel B.....	1	4	70
Marshall, Ichabod.....	1		20
Mason, Cornelius.....		1	10
Myres, Adam.....	2	1	70
Odway, Nehemiah.....	1		20
*Pisley, Reuben.....	2	1	70
Powers, Abraham.....		2	20
*Rundle, Abijah.....	1	4	70
Reed, Hanson.....	1	1	50
*Reynolds, Job T.....		3	30
*Sutcliffe, Nathan.....		3	30
*Southgate, Robert S.....	1	5	80
*Sypher, Peter.....	1	4	70
Strong, Silas G.....		1	10
Tice, Peter.....	1	1	200 1 50
Tice & Forsythe.....		200	1 00
*Taylor, Benjamin.....		2	20
*Terry, Henry.....		1	10
*Tanner, Nathan.....		1	40
*Underhill, Jasper.....		2	20
Wooden, Edward.....	1	1	40
Wells, Ezekiel.....	1	4	70
*Welch, John.....		5	50
White, John.....	1	3	60
Wilson, James.....	1	4	70
Todd Manning S.....	1		30
David Underhill, Levi Cole, Platt Benedict, Peter Tice, Frederick Forsythe and Daniel Underhill, own all the town of Norwalk, assessed at \$1,400.....			7 00

Total for Norwalk.....43 174.....\$13 10

Total amount of the tax.....\$1,317 75

NOTE.—Total names on this duplicate.....63

*Lived in Bronson, then attached to Norwalk.....19

*Lived in Milan.....1

*Lived in Ridgefield.....1—21

Residents of Norwalk.....42

To HALLET GALLUP—SIR:—The taxes herein contained, assessed on the residents of Huron county for the year 1820: you are by the Commissioners of Huron county, authorized to collect, you will, therefore, proceed to collect the said taxes, and pay the amount to the Treasurer of Huron county as the law directs.

By order of the Commissioners,
BENJ. ABBOTT, Clerk.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FOR 1820.

(Extract showing Norwalk.)

LIST OF TAXABLE PROPERTY IN NORWALK TOWNSHIP

Proprietors' Names.	Horses.	Cattle.
*Ammerman, Simon.....	1	5 \$9 20
Bronker, John.....	2	1 70
Bronson, Hosea.....		3 25
Bangs James.....		2 20
Benton William.....		1 10
Baker, Timothy.....	2	2 80
*Beckwith, William.....		3 20
Bangs, Theodore.....	2	

Proprietors' Names.	Horses.	Cattle.	
Benedict, Platt.....	2	6	1.30
*Baker, Spencer.....	1	3	.60
*Baker, William.....	1	4	.40
*Brownell, Abel.....	1	3	.30
Boalt, John.....	1	3	.60
Boalt, Eben.....	1	4	.40
*Clark, Daniel L.....	1	4	.70
*Crawford, Joseph.....	1	4	.40
*Clark, Lester.....	1	4	.40
*Clark, Jabez.....	1	1	.30
Cole, David.....	2	40	
*Couger, David.....	1	10	
Cole, Thomas.....	1	3	.30
Case, Samuel.....	1	3	.30
Carver, Aldrich.....	1	1	.40
Cole, Asher.....	1	6	.90
Comstock, Abijah.....	3	7	1.60
Dewit, Zurich W.....	1	1	.10
*Day, Eliphalet.....	1	4	.40
Decker, Elick.....	1	5	.50
Dinick, John.....	1	1	.19
Dillingham, John.....	15	1.50	
*Demming, Jabez.....	1	3	.30
Dillingham, Henry.....	1	3	.30
*Ervin, Thomas.....	1	2	.50
Forsythe, Frederick.....	1	1	.40
Finney Erastus.....	1	1	.10
Foster, Seth.....	1	1	.16
Fay, John.....	1	1	.30
Fay, Lucius.....	1	5	.50
Gallup, Hallett.....	1	1	.30
Gardner, William.....	1	1	.50
Gibbs, David.....	2	1	1.00
Gibbs, Samuel R.....	1	5	.60
*Gutrie, Eben.....	1	8	1.10
Gilbert, Enos.....	1	1	.10
Huyck, Henry.....	2	2	.80
Hutchins, Elias.....	1	1	.10
*Herrick, Lott.....	1	3	.30
*Hoshins, John.....	1	1	.10
*Hagaman, Thomas.....	1	1	.70
*Herrick, Ezra.....	2	2	.80
*Herrick, Ezra, Jr.....	1	2	.20
Inman, Mulvery.....	1	3	.30
Isham, Epaphroditus.....	1	1	.15
Isham, Selden.....	2	1	.70
*Johnson, Bryant.....	1	5	.50
Jerolomon, Thomas.....	1	3	.30
*Kolleg, Martin.....	1	5	.50
Keeler, Lewis.....	2	6	1.20
Keeler, John.....	2	2	.80
Lewis, Samuel B.....	1	7	1.60
Laylin, Charles.....	1	4	.40
Laylin, John.....	1	3	.30
Lockwood, Henry.....	1	3	.60
Lane, Ebenezer.....	1	1	.40
Mason, Cornelia.....	1	1	.19
Marshall, Ichabod.....	1	3	.30
*Moffit, Philip.....	1	4	.40
*Pixley, Reuben C.....	1	1	.40
Pratt, Jean.....	1	1	.40
Pierce, Joseph.....	1	1	.10
Porter, William.....	1	1	.10
*Rundle, Abijah.....	1	5	.50
Raymond, Lemuel.....	1	4	.70
*Reynolds, Job T.....	1	5	.50
*Ruseo, Armon.....	1	1	.10
Reed, Hanson.....	1	5	.50
*Sutcliffe, Nathan.....	1	5	.50
*Southgate, Robert S.....	1	7	1.00
*Sample, John.....	1	2	.50
Sifort, Peter.....	1	4	.70
Sifort, Peter, Jr.....	1	1	.10
*Tanner, Nathan.....	1	6	.90
Tice, Peter.....	1	3	.30
Tilden, Daniel.....	1	1	.30
Todd, Manning S.....	1	1	.10
*Terry, Henry.....	1	1	.10
*Taylor, Benjamin F.....	1	5	.50
*Warren, Daniel.....	1	1	.30
Welch, John.....	1	1	.19
Wilson, James.....	1	4	.70
White, John.....	1	4	.40
Whicker, Levi.....	1	3	.65
Western, Jonathan.....	1	4	.40
Wells, Roswell.....	1	5	.30

Proprietors' Names.	Horses.	Cattle.	
Wilson, Thomas C.....	1	1	.10
Ordway, Nehemiah.....	1	1	.10
	51	283	14.50
Amount of Town Plat.....			4.60
			\$92.10

TOWN PLAT OF NORWALK.

Proprietors' Names.	Tax.
Benedict, Platt.....	5 72½
Benton, William.....	35
Bangs, James.....	35
Bangs, Theodore.....	30
*Butman, John S.....	30
Cole, Levi.....	4.50
Finney Erastus.....	1.35
Fay, John.....	1.62½
Forsythe, Frederick.....	2.25
Gallup, William.....	1.50
Henry, Samuel.....	.50
Lane, Ebenezer.....	1.50
Mason, Cornelia.....	2.00
Tice, Peter.....	5.75
Tilden, Daniel.....	8.00
*Underhill, David.....	3.75
Williams, James.....	1.25
Whitelsey and Benedict.....	6.60
	\$47.60
Total amount of page footings of this duplicate.....	\$1,142.14

To DAVID W. HINMAN, Esq.,

Sir:—The county levies herein contained, assessed on the inhabitants of Huron County, for the year 1830, you are, by the Commissioners of Huron county, authorized to collect, you will therefore proceed to collect the same and pay to the Treasurer of Huron county as the law directs. By order of the Commissioners.

For LYMAN FARWELL, Clerk,
ICHABOD MARSHALL.

Note. Total names on this duplicate, including lot owners.....	191
*Lived in Brouson, then attached to Norwalk.....	23
*Lived in Milan.....	1
*Lived in Ridgefield.....	1—35
Residents of Norwalk.....	66

PERSONAL PROPERTY, ETC.—TAX FOR 1832.

(Extract showing Norwalk.)

Duplicate of the county tax levied on the personal and town property of Huron county for the year 1832.

Norwalk.	Horses.	Cattle.	Tax.
Arnold, Alfred.....	1		\$0.10
Bangs, Theodore S., lot 60, 1820, 20c; 1821, \$1.35; 1822, 75c.....			2.30
Butman, Jno. S., lot 58, 1821, 41c; 1821, 75½c; 1822, 37½c; ..			1.50
Boalt, Eben.....	5		.50
Boutee, John.....	1	1	.40
Baker, Timothy, 1 house \$400.....	3	11	4.00
Benedict, Platt, 1 house \$400, half No. 1.....	2	5	3.35
" lot 14, 1821, 87½c; 1822, 50c.....			1.31½
" lot 15, 1821, \$4.40; 1822, 50c.....			4.90
" lot 18, 1821, 62½c; 1822, 50c.....			1.12½
" lot 33, 1821, 62½c; 1822, 50c.....			1.12½
Benton, William.....	1		.10
Boalt, John.....	1	1	.40
Comstock, Abijah.....	1	11	1.40
Cole, Asher, 1 house \$250.....	2	7	2.55
" Norwalk lots 4, 11, 19, 21, 27, 29.....			2.00
Cole, Asa, lot 23, 50c.....			.90
" lot 20, 1820, \$2.18; 1821, \$0.81½; 1822, 50c.....			3.49½
Drake, Benjamin F.....	1		.30
Drake, William, lot 20, half 1820, \$1.09½; 1821, \$0.81½; 1822, \$0.35.....			2.15
Dounce, John.....	1		.10
Dillingham, John, 1 house \$2.50.....		12	2.45
Forsythe, Frederick, 1 house \$4.50.....	1	1	1.65
" ¾ lot 0, 1821 and 1822.....			3.07
Finney, Erastus, 1 house -20c, ½ lot 24.....			1.25
Fay, Lucius.....	5		.50
Fay, Jean, delinquent, 1829, 1 house, lot 16.....			1.62½
" same same for 1832.....			1.60
Gardner, William.....	1	2	.50
Gallup, Hallett, lot 41.....	1		1.42½
Gilbert, Enos.....	1	4	.50
Gibbs, David.....	1	4	.70

Norwalk.	Horses.	Cattle.	Pigs.
Gallup, William, lot 62, 1820, '21, '22	3	3	\$1 65
Gibbs, Samuel R.	3	1	30
Hurlburt, Henry	1	1	10
Henry, Samuel lot 17, 1820, '21, '22	2	2	2 15
Hoskins, Thomas	1	2	50
Huyck, Henry	3	1	1 60
Isham, Epaphrodinus	1	1	10
Isham, Selden	1	1	40
Inman, Malvery	3	3	50
Kimball, Moses, half 28	1	1	75
Keeler, John	1	3	60
Keeler, Luke	1	1	40
Keeler, Lewis	6	6	60
Latimer, Fickett	1	1	30
Lockwood, Henry	4	4	40
Laylin, Charles	3	3	50
Lane, Ebenezer, 1 house 1830	1	3	1 50
Lewis, Samuel B.	1	19	2 50
Laylin, John	2	1	70
Merryman, Enoch B.	1	2	50
Marshall, Ichabod	1	5	80
lots 36 and 37			80
Mason, Cornelia, lot 34	1	2	100
Marvin, Zachariah, lot 35			40
Odway, Nehemiah, delinquent of 1831	3	40	
Pratt, John	1	1	10
Pearce, Joseph, delinquent of 1820			10
Reed, Hanson	1	3	60
Richmond Everett, lot 66, 1821, '22			1 31 1/2
Stratton, David	4	4	40
Tice, Peter, 1/2 lot 9	2	9	2 63 1/4
lot 5			50
lots 6, 8, 1821, '22			6 75
lots 25, 23, 1821, '22			2 99 1/4
Tidden, Daniel	2	20	
half lots 12, 23, 1820, '21, '22			2 71 1/2
Underhill, David, lots 23, 28			1 60
Underhill, Benedict & Cole, lots 2, 3, 10, 30			4 00
Williams, James, lot 64, 1820, '21, '22	1	2	4 55
Wells, Ezekiel	4	4	40
Wells, Roswell	1	1	10
Woodward, William	1	1	10
Wilson, James	1	1	70
White, John	4	4	40
Wheeler, Samuel	1	1	10
Wood, Andrew	6	6	60
Wheeler, Edward	2	2	60
Whittlesey, Elisha, lots 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 63 and 65, 1821 and 1822			14 45 1/4
Unknown, lots 7 and 31, 1821 and 1822			2 63
Totals	47	182	\$121 52 1/2

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, HURON CO., Aug. 1, 1822.

I, Moses Kimball, certify the foregoing to be a correct duplicate of the county tax for 1822. MOSES KIMBALL, C. A.

NOTE.—The total tax for the county, including Brownhelm, Black River and Elyria, is footed up \$1,659.36.

It will be remembered that Norwalk and Bronson were set off into a township by the name of Norwalk on February 18, 1817, and that Bronson was set off from Norwalk on March 4, 1822. This, then, is the first personal property tax duplicate for Norwalk township proper, and shows a list of sixty-six taxable persons; but Bauman, Underhill and Whittlesey were not residents, leaving the actual resident tax payers only sixty-three.

RESIDENT REAL ESTATE TAX IN 1815.

(Extract showing Norwalk).

Resident proprietors' land tax, in the year 1815, for the counties of Cuyahoga and Huron, State of Ohio.

Proprietors' Names.	1st Rate	2d Rate	3d Rate	Range	Town	Section	County	Amount of Taxes	Total Amount Due
								\$ cts. mills 20ths	\$ cts. mills 20ths
Comstock, Abijah	150	22	12	2	8	Huron	25	81	60 60
Frink, William	200	22	12	2	8	do	5	37	5 5
Wood, Brandish	200	22	12	2	8	do	5	37	5 5

I have compared this duplicate with the original, and find it correct.

GEORGE PEASE.

The charge for drawing off the within duplicate is one dollar and fifty cents. Received payment of Charles Parker. GEORGE PEASE.

*There is one name on this duplicate for Portage county, and one for Cuyahoga, with forty-seven other names for Huron county, the three above given being all there are for Norwalk.

† Charles Parker was one of the county commissioners in 1815.

‡ William Frink was a resident of Ridgefield in 1812 and 1813, and of Sherman in 1820, and probably never resided in Norwalk.

TAX IN 1816.

(Extract showing Norwalk).

Resident proprietors' land tax for the year 1816, in the County of Huron, State of Ohio.

Proprietors' Names.	1st Rate	2d Rate	3d Rate	Range	Town	Section	County	Amount of Tax	Total Amount Due
								\$ cts. mills	\$ cts. mills
Beatty, John	281	22	4	1	1	27	5	4	21 5
Bull, Epaphras W.	232	22	4	1	1	27	5	3	48
Comstock, Abijah	1850	22	4	2	8	3	5	17	50 5
Frink, William	200	22	4	2	8	3	5	27	75
								4	50

Total amt tax (with rest of county), \$1,185 07 1/2

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, Huron County, Ohio, June 8, 1816.

We hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a duplicate of the State tax, for the County of Huron, for the year 1816.

Attest: FREDERICK FALLY, EBERNEZ MERRY, Commissioners.

FREDERICK FALLY, Clerk.

*There are in this duplicate one name from Portage county, two names from Medina county, four names from Cuyahoga county, one hundred and seven names from Huron county,—four being from Norwalk, and Comstock the only actual resident.

TAX IN 1817.

(Extract showing Norwalk).

Resident proprietors' land tax, for the year 1817, for Huron county, Ohio.

Proprietors' Names.	1st Rate	2d Rate	3d Rate	Range	Town	Section	County	Amount of Tax
								\$ cts.
Colwell and others	232	22	4	1	1	27	Huron	4 21 1/2
do	232	22	4	1	1	27	do	3 22
Bull, Epaphras W.	772	22	4	2	8	3	do	17 50 1/2
Comstock, Abijah	1850	22	4	2	8	3	do	27 5
Fay, Aaron	100	22	4	2	8	3	do	2 25
Frink, William	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	4 50
Gibbs, David	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	8 00 1/2
Lockwood, Henry	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	5 70
Second Rate (for county)	277 1/2							
Third Rate (for county)	762 1/2							
								\$1329 57 1/2

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, Huron County, Ohio, April 2, 1817.

We hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a duplicate of the State tax, for the county of Huron, for the year 1817.

FREDERICK FALLY, JOHN S. REEDE, Commissioners.

‡ There are in this duplicate one name from Portage county, two names from Medina county, two names from Cuyahoga county, one hundred and twenty-three names from Huron county,—seven being from Norwalk.

* These figures are the total for the county. The total for Norwalk is \$78.25 1/2.

TAX IN 1818.

(Extract showing Norwalk).

Resident proprietors' land tax, for the year 1818, for Huron county.

Proprietors' Names	1st Rate	2d Rate	3d Rate	Range	Town	Section	County	Amount of Tax
								\$ cts.
Trumbull	772	22	4	2	8	3	Huron	11 67
Beatty, John	281	22	4	1	1	27	do	2 21
do	232	22	4	1	1	27	do	3 48
Comstock, Abijah	1850	22	4	2	8	3	do	18 50
Fay, Aaron	100	22	4	2	8	3	do	1 50
Frink, William	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	2 00
Gibbs, David	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	5 19
Lockwood, Henry	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	5 80
Lewis, Samuel B.	200	22	4	2	8	3	do	5 70 1/2
Reed, Hanson	211	22	4	2	8	3	do	

There are in this duplicate one name from Portage county, one name from Medina county, one hundred and eighty-eight names from Huron county,—nine being from Norwalk.

There is no certificate attached to this paper, but it is authentic, and forms part of the official record in the Auditors' office of Huron county.

TAX IN 1819.
(Extract showing Norwalk).

The following Collector's duplicate, for the tax of the year 1819, found among the papers of the late Hallet Gallup, is the earliest one that the most thorough search has brought to light. None are on file in the Auditor's office.

Land tax of the residents of Huron county, for 1819.

	2d Rate	3d Rate	R	T	S	Lot	County	2	3
Beatty, John.....	281	22	4	1			Huron	281	Returned
do.....	392	22	4	1				400	R
Comstock, Abijah.....	1770	42	3					1770	
Fay, Aaron.....	100	22	4	1				177	Paid
Frink, William.....	300	22	4	2				350	Returned 1215, 20
Gibbs, David.....	300	22	4	2				62	Paid
Lockwood, Henry.....	200	28	2	3				638	Paid
Lewis, Samuel B.....	200	22	4	1				520	Paid
Marvin, Zachariah.....	80	22	4	2		part		110	Paid
Reed, Hanson.....	311	22	4	4				543	Returned

Total amt of tax (for county), \$1,605.90

John S. Reed says, the tax against Cornelius Reed was paid for last year.

To Hallet Gallup:

You are, by the commissioners of Huron county, appointed collector of the foregoing taxes, of the residents, on land in the county of Huron. You are, therefore, hereby authorized to collect the same, and make returns as the law directs.

Attest:

BENJAMIN ADAMS, Clerk.

JOSEPH STRONG, } Commissioners.
BILDAD ADAMS, }

TAX IN 1820.
(Extract showing Norwalk).

Non-Resident Proprietors.	Resident Proprietors.	2d Rate	3d Rate	R	T	S	Lot	S cts.
Burrill, Jas. Elias.....		250	22	4	3			4371
Burtiss, Samuel.....		65	22	4	1			1133
Benedict, Thomas.....	Beatty, John.....	513	22	4	1			3282
do.....	do.....	497	22	4	2			870
Benedict, Elijah.....	do.....	308	22	4	2			203
do.....	Baker Timothy.....	347	22	4	3			3043
do.....	do.....	97	22	4	4			1603
do.....	do.....	127	22	4	4			2291
do.....	do.....	100	22	4	4			175
Benedict Platt, } for Salley and } Mary Pettit.....		6881	22	4	1			12043
Boelt, Eben.....		200	22	4	4			350
Benedict, William.....		300	22	4	2			525
Comstock, Abijah.....		1100	22	4	2	1 to 6		2030
do.....	do.....	543	22	4	2			9501
Curtiss, Ira.....		2034	22	4	4			4591
Cole, Asa & Thomas.....		300	22	4	4			350
Crawford, Joseph.....		304	22	4	4			634
Cole, Levi, heirs of.....		200	22	4	2			350
do.....		100	22	4	4			175
do.....		140	22	4	1			245
Dickerson, Hannah.....		103	22	4	1			3024
Dickerson, Sarah.....		203	22	4	1			4604
Dillingham, John.....		1534	22	4	1			201
Fay, Lucius.....		100	22	4	4			175
Fitch, Gratt.....		80	22	4	4			140
Fitch, Salmon.....		2034	22	4	4			5714
Frink, William.....		60	22	4	2			172
Gibbs, Samuel R.....		550	22	4	2			962
Gibbs, David.....		200	22	4	2			530
Huyck, Henry.....		60	22	4	4			105
Imman, Melvory.....		874	22	4	4			153
Jeunings, Seth.....		62	22	4	1			108
Jessup, James.....		300	22	4	3			200
Keeler, Samuel.....		95	22	4	1			1604
Keeler, Luke.....		317	22	4	1			554
do.....		50	22	4	4			875
do.....		1	22	4	3			015
Keeler, Isaac, heirs of.....		100	22	4	3			103
Lockwood, Stephen.....		873	22	4	2			15374
do.....		1190	22	4	2			1190
Lewis, Samuel B.....		200	22	4	1			350
Lockwood, Henry.....		480	22	4	2			840
Lane, E.....		50	22	4	2	out lot		84
Meers, Moody.....		50	22	4	3			574
Marvin, Zachariah.....		80	22	4	2			140

TAX IN 1820—CONTINUED.

Non-Resident Proprietors.	Resident Proprietors.	2d Rate	3d Rate	R	T	S	Lot	S cts.
Middlebrook, Sam'l.....	heirs of.....	413	22	4	1			7294
Russ, Isaac.....		1424	22	4	3			2495
Riggs, Jonah, heirs of.....		333	22	4	3			133
Reed, Hanson.....		150	22	4	4			2074
Townsend, Jacob.....		65	22	4	1			113
Tousey, Hannah F.....		60	22	4	1			105
Tice, Peter.....		54	22	4	4			074
White, Moss.....		1356	22	4	4			2378
E. Tweedy, & others.....		1324	22	4	4			249
Wilson, James.....		75	22	4	1			1314
Whitlock, Thaddeus.....		8734	22	4	4			1522
Whittlesey, Elisha.....		248	22	4	1			4304
Wood, Stephen.....		150	22	4	3			2623
Keeler, John.....		50	22	4	3			575
do.....		13	22	4	3			43
Newcomb, Jabez.....								

Total for Norwalk.....\$297 494

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a correct duplicate of the land tax in the county of Huron, for the year 1820.

ASA SANFORD,
Auditor of Huron County.

+William Frink appears as a resident of Sherman, this year.

TAX DUPLICATE FOR 1878.

The present County Auditor, H. W. Owen, Esq., has kindly furnished the writer with a statement of the several footings of valuations and taxes for the township and corporation of Norwalk in the year 1878:

Township—total valuation.....	\$748,136 00
Township—total tax.....	8,834 79
State proportion.....	2,171 31
County proportion.....	2,555 70
Township proportion, Norwalk township.....	4,117 40
Corporation—total valuation.....	\$2,204,783 00
Total amount of tax.....	52,201 88
State proportion.....	6,654 87
County proportion.....	7,802 26
Corporation proportion.....	37,744 75
Total for township and corporation.....	\$61,099 67

FIRST ELECTION.

Of the first election ever held within the limits of the present township of Norwalk, Samuel B. Lewis says (see *Fire-lands Pioneer* of June, 1858, page 33): "During the summer and autumn of 1815, I built a house on the farm I have so long dwelt upon, and in that house, in the spring of 1816, was formed a township organization, just after which was held, in my house, the first Norwalk township election. I do not, at this distant day, recollect all who were present at that election, but can only name, among others, present: Judge Southgate, David Gibbs, Esq., Henry Lockwood, James Wilson, Hanson Reed, Abijah Comstock, Esq., myself and some fifteen or twenty others. Judge Southgate, Abijah Comstock, Esq., and Samuel B. Lewis, Esq., constituted the board at this election.

Martin Kellogg says (see *Fire-lands Pioneer* of March, 1859, page 41): "The first election in Norwalk township was held at the house of Hanson Reed in April, 1817. Norwalk and Bronson were at this time organized as an election district. There was no justice of the peace or other officer who could lawfully

qualify the election board before entering upon the duties for which they were chosen.

"Abijah Comstock had been justice of the peace, but his commission had expired previous to this election. After the electors had met and the board was formed, they had to send to Ridgefield for Esquire Littlefield to come and qualify the board."

"On the 6th of April, 1818, (Norwalk and Bronson being together as an election district,) R. S. Southgate was elected justice of the peace. Number of votes at said election, twenty-two, of which Mr. Southgate had twenty-one votes. On the 28th of May, he was qualified by James Williams, Esq., county clerk. On the 13th of April, 1818, an election was held at the house of Samuel B. Lewis, in Norwalk township, (Bronson and Norwalk together.) At this election fifty-six votes were given. S. B. Lewis, Lott Herrick and Martin Kellogg were judges, and Reuben Pixley and Dr. Joseph Pearce were clerks of election."

"Norwalk and Bronson were together as an election district from 1817 (the time of their first organization) to 1822. For a part of this time Fairfield was included in the same organization, making an election district five miles wide and fifteen miles long, the same being called Norwalk; and while so together, all the elections were held in the part called Norwalk proper."

Mrs. Elizabeth Minn, formerly Reed, says (see *Fire-lands Pioneer* of March, 1859, page 48): "The first town meeting was held at our house, as near as I can remember, in 1818. The officers I do not remember except Reuben Pixley. He was town clerk."

The foregoing statements are all in conflict with each other, and leave the question as to date, in doubt.

Mr. Lewis is undoubtedly mistaken in fixing the date in 1816, for Norwalk was not set off from the township of Huron until February 18, 1817.

Mr. Kellogg evidently speaks from memory in fixing the date as April, 1817, and does not give the names of any of the officers officiating at the election he describes, nor the names of any of the officers elected. He speaks by the record in his account of the election of April 6, 1818, but puts them in a little thick when he gives us another election on April 13, 1818, only seven days after that of the 6th. In the number of votes and names of officers officiating, he exactly describes the election for governor and other officers held on October 13, 1818. There is no official record in any of the county offices, from which an inference could be drawn, that any election was held on April 13th; so he is probably incorrect in that statement.

He is, in part, correct in stating that part of the time between 1817 and 1822, Fairfield formed part of the election district "called Norwalk." From February 18, 1817, to March 5, 1820, Bronson and Norwalk were one organization named Norwalk; at the latter date, Ripley and Fairfield were attached to

Norwalk, and the four townships constituted an election district, five miles wide and twenty miles long, from that time until March 4, 1822, when Bronson and Fairfield were set off into an organization by the name of Bronson, and Ripley was attached to New Haven.

No poll book, nor certificate of election can be found in any of the county offices, relating to an election in Norwalk, in 1817, but in volume one of the "Commissioners' Journal" of Huron county, showing the disbursements by the County Treasurer for 1817, appears the following entry:

VOUCHER 258.

1817—June 4.—To Abijah Comstock, for making returns of Justice elect. \$1 00

Voucher 258, now on file in the Auditor's office, reads as follows:

I hereby certify that Abijah Comstock made return of the election of a justice of the peace for the township of Norwalk, and that by said returns he was a judge of the election.

May 20, 1817.

DAVID ABBOTT, Clerk Common Pleas.

In the probate judges office, at Norwalk, is a little old record book containing a medley of official memoranda of estrays, store, tavern and ferry licenses, marriages, certificates of the organization of different religious societies, and official qualification of justices of the peace; among which is the following:

June 4, 1817. David Gibbs sworn into office of justice of the peace for Norwalk township, before me, DAVID ABBOTT, Justice.

The foregoing entries and voucher fully corroborate and establish the correctness of Mr. Kellogg's statement, that the first election was held in 1817, and it is undoubtedly true that April was the month, and Hanson Reed's house the place, when and where it occurred.

Hanson Reed's house was situated on the east side of the road leading from near the water works to the Fairfield road, and about thirty rods from the latter road.

No poll-book can be found of the election of April 6, 1818, but an official certificate of an abstract of the votes cast at that election is on file in the county clerk's office, and is as follows:

WHEREAS, By poll-book transmitted to me, and opened in the presence of David Abbott and David W. Hinman, two justices of the peace in and for the county of Huron, it appears that at an election in and for the township of Norwalk, on the 6th day of April, 1818, the number of votes amounted to twenty-two, and that Robert S. Southgate had twenty-one votes and Samuel B. Lewis one vote, consequently the said Robert S. Southgate was duly elected a justice of the peace, in and for the township of Norwalk, in the county aforesaid.

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above is a true abstract of the above mentioned poll-book opened by us

Dated this 18th day of April, 1818.

DAVID ABBOTT.

DAVID W. HINMAN.

Justices of the Peace.

In the Commissioners' Journal, account of disbursements for the year 1818, appears the following entry under date of May 27:

VOUCHER 360.

To S. B. Lewis for election return. 64 cents.

Voucher No. 360, for that year, reads:

I do hereby certify that Samuel B. Lewis made a return of the poll-book of the election of a justice of the peace, in and for the township of Norwalk, whereby it appears that Robert S. Southgate was elected a justice.

JAS WILLIAMS, C. Pleas.

The foregoing certificates and commissioners' entry form the only official recognition of the election of April 6, 1818. They fully corroborate Mr. Kellogg as to his statement of that election. It is probable that Samuel B. Lewis, Lott Herrick and Martin Kellogg, were the judges, as stated by Mr. Kellogg, and Reuben Pixley one of the clerks, as stated by both Mr. Kellogg and Mrs. Minn.

The poll-book of the State election of October 13, 1818, (which Mr. Kellogg so exactly describes as having been held April 13,) is the first and eldest one found on the files in the county clerk's office. This is probably the election referred to by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Kellogg as the one held at the house of the former. The following is a copy:

POLL BOOK, OCTOBER 13, 1818.

Poll Book of the election held in the township of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, on the thirteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen. Martin Kellogg, Samuel B. Lewis, and Lot Herrick, judges; and Reuben Pixley and Joseph Pearce, clerks of this election, were severally sworn as the law directs, previous to their entering on the duties of their offices.

No. of Votes.	Names of Electors.	No. of Votes.	Names of Electors.
1.	Levi Cole.	39.	Peter Tice.
2.	*Eben Guthrie.	30.	Simon Timmermon.
3.	Mulvery Inman.	31.	Reuben C. Pixley.
4.	Ezra Abbott.	32.	James Wilson.
5.	Burwell Whitlock.	33.	*Lester Clark.
6.	*Stewart Southgate.	34.	*Nathan Sutliff.
7.	Asher Cole.	35.	Thomas Cole.
8.	Edward Wheeler.	36.	Truman Rusco.
9.	Hanson Read.	37.	John White.
10.	Joseph Pearce.	38.	Eben Boalt.
11.	John Laylin.	39.	Asa W. Ruggles.
12.	Charles Laylin.	40.	*Nathan Tanner.
13.	*William W. Beckwith.	41.	Seth Jennings.
14.	*Joseph Crawford.	42.	David Cole.
15.	*Job T. Reynolds.	43.	Abraham Powers.
16.	Carlton Hoskins.	44.	*Abijah Rundell.
17.	Platt Benedict.	45.	John Boalt.
18.	*Lot Herrick.	46.	Jabez Newcomb.
19.	*Martin Kellogg.	47.	Luke Keeler.
20.	*Daniel Warren.	48.	John Keeler.
21.	Lucius Fay.	49.	Henry Lockwood.
22.	Samuel B. Lewis.	50.	Louis Keeler.
23.	*Robert S. Southgate.	51.	*Daniel Clark.
24.	*Jabez Damming.	52.	Seth Keeler.
25.	Jasper Underhill.	53.	*Halsey Clark.
26.	John Welch.	54.	James Mead.
27.	*Reuben Pixley.	55.	Abijah Comstock.
28.	David Underhill.	56.	Charles Taylor.

It is hereby certified that the number of electors at this election amounts to fifty-six.

Attest:
 REUBEN PIXLEY,
 JOSEPH PEARCE,
 Clerks.
 SAMUEL B. LEWIS,
 MARTIN KELLOGG,
 LOTT HERRICK,
 Judges of Election.

On the reverse side of the half sheet of unruled foolscap paper upon which the foregoing "Poll Book" is written, an abstract and certificate of the votes cast at that election are entered, as follows:

NAME'S OF PERSONS VOTED FOR, AND FOR WHAT OFFICES, CONTAINING THE NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH PERSON.

GOVERNOR—	
Thomas Worthington, number of votes.....	2
Ethan A. Brown, number of votes.....	53
REPRESENTATIVES IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE—	
Senate—John Campbell, number of votes.....	49
Representative—Alfred Kelley, number of votes.....	49

*Lived in Bronson, then part of Norwalk.

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS—

Peter Hitchcock, number of votes.....	6
John Sloane, number of votes.....	49

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—

Erastus Smith, number of votes.....	5
Bildad Adams, number of votes.....	50

We hereby certify that Ethan A. Brown had fifty-three votes for Governor, and Thomas Worthington had two votes for Governor; John Campbell had forty-nine votes for Senator in the State Legislature; Alfred Kelley had forty-nine votes for Representative in the State Legislature; John Sloane had forty-nine votes for Representative in Congress, and Peter Hitchcock had six votes for representative in Congress; Bildad Adams had fifty votes for County Commissioner, and Erastus Smith had five votes for County Commissioner.

Attest:
 REUBEN PIXLEY,
 JOSEPH PEARCE,
 Clerks.
 SAMUEL B. LEWIS,
 MARTIN KELLOGG,
 LOTT HERRICK,
 Judges of Election.

POLL BOOK, APRIL 5, 1824.

Poll-book of the election held in the township of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, and State of Ohio, this fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four. Platt Benedict, Eben Boalt and Asher Cole, judges; and John Tice and Abel Tracy, clerks, were severally sworn, as the law directs, previous to their entering upon the duties of their respective offices.

NAME'S OF ELECTORS.

Andrew Woods.	Cyrus Butler	Joshua Drake.
Ammi Keeler.	Matthew W. Junkins.	Alvir Barton.
John Tice.	Perry G. Beckwith.	Abijah Comstock.
Hallet Gallup.	Platt Benedict.	Rufus Andrus.
Lucius Fay.	Isaac Herrick	Jabez Clark.
Erastus Fenney.	John White	Isaac Marshall
Richard Huyk.	Edward Wheeler.	David Gibbs.
John G. Taylor.	John Huyck.	Abel Tracy.
Abimeel Dodge.	James Wilson.	Eben Boalt.
Thomas Puchanuan.	Luke Keeler.	Theodore Baker.
John Dillingham.	Erastus Butler.	Ezekiel Wells.
Pickett Latimer.	Henry Hurlbutt.	John Dumes.
Malavery Inman.	Samuel Henry.	Charles Laylin.
Samuel Preston.	Ebenezer Lane.	Harvey G. Morse.
John T. Hilton.	Alexander Dickson.	Timothy Baker
Asa Cole.	John Laylin.	George Springstead.
Henry Lockwood.	Henry Huyck.	Henson Read.
Frederick Forsythe.	Roswell Wells.	Daniel Whitney.
Thomas Holmes.	Oliver Day.	John Keeler.
Daniel Samuvelsane.	Epaphroditus Isham.	Asher Cole.
Daniel G. Raitt.	Selden Isham.	Benjamin Hoyt
Enos Gilbert.	Zachariah Marvin.	
Benjamin Junkins.	Joshua Wells.	

It is hereby certified that the number of electors at this election amount to sixty-seven.

Attest:
 JOHN TICE,
 ABEL TRACY,
 Clerks.
 PLATT BENEDICT,
 ASHER COLE,
 EBEN BOALT,
 Judges of Election.

Enos Gilbert, was elected Justice of the Peace.

Samuel Preston, was elected Township Clerk.

Eben Boalt, Platt Benedict and Asher Cole, were elected Trustees
 Timothy Baker, was elected Treasurer.

CENSUS OF 1810.

Enumeration of the male inhabitants of the town of Norwalk over the age of twenty-one years.
 EBEN BOALT, Lister.

Abbott, Ezra.	Gallup, Hallet.	Potter, Thomas.
Ammerman, Simeon.*	Guthrie, Eben.*	Prentice, Oliver.*
Amundson, Daniel.	Gurley, M.	Peterson, Edward.
Arnold, Alfred.	Herrick, Ezra.*	Raitt, Daniel G.
Benedict, Platt.	Herrick, Ezra, Jr.*	Rundle, Abijah.*
Beckwith, Perry.*	Hurlbutt, Henry.	Reed, Hanson.
Beckwith, William.*	Hoskins, John.*	Reynolds, Job T.*
Boalt, Eben.	Hoskins, Carlton.*	Sutliff, Nathan.*
Boalt, John.	Hagerman, Thomas.*	Southgate, Robert S.*
Brunson, Hezekiah.	Houk, Henry	Sypher, Peter.*
Baily, Hyman.	Herrick, Lott.*	Sypher, Peter, Jr.*
Brownell, Abel.*	Inman, Malvra.	Smith, John
Betts, John.	Isham, Epaphroditus.	Strong, Silas.*
Cole, Levi.	Isham, Selden.	Sypher, Henry.*
Cole, Asher.	Kellogg, Martin.	Stone, Joel.

Carpenter, John L.	Keeler, Luke.	Sanders, Stephen.
Constock, Abijah.	Keeler, Ami.	Sales, Charles.
Cherry, Henry. ^a	Keeler, Lewis.	Tice, Peter.
Clark, Lester. ^a	Keeler, John.	Taylor, Benjamin. ^a
Clark, Jabez. ^a	Keeler, Seth.	Terry, Henry. ^a
Cole, David.	Lockwood, George.	Tanner, Nathan. ^a
Clark, Halsey. ^a	Lockwood, Ralph.	Underhill, Jasper.
Crawford, Joseph. ^a	Lockwood, Henry.	Underhill, David.
Cole, Thomas.	Laylin, John.	Wheeler, Edward.
Cole, Asa.	Laylin, Charles.	Wells, Ezekiel.
Carver, Aldrich.	Lewis, Samuel E.	Wells, Roswell.
Dickerson, Alexander.	Loomis, Alvan.	Wells, John.
Deamung, Jabez. ^a	Marshall, Ichabod.	Wells, Daniel W. ^a
Davis, Joshua.	Myres, Adam.	White, John.
Forsythe, Frederick.	McLin, John.	Wilson, James.
Fay, Lucius.	Newcomb, Jabez.	Todd, Manning S.
Fay, Pollus.	Nims, Slaham.	Shaddock, Joseph.
Felt, Joshua.	Odway, Nehemiah.	Ruggles, Asa.
Gibbs, David.	Pearce, Joseph.	Rusco, Arnon. ^a
Gibbs, Samuel R.	Pixley, Reuben. ^a	Southgate, Stewart.
Gilbert, Enos.	Pixley, Reuben, Jr. ^a	
Gallup, William.	Powers, Abraham.	

I do hereby certify the within to be a correct enumeration of the white male inhabitants of the township of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, as taken by me.

EBEN BOALT, *Lister*.

NORWALK, May 24, 1819.

This enumeration shows a total of.....	109
Lived in Bronson, attached to Norwalk.....	21
Total for Norwalk proper.....	75

CENSUS OF 1823.

The enumeration of the white male inhabitants of Norwalk above twenty-one years of age, in 1823.

John Keeler..... 1	Peter Tice..... 2
Abijah Constock..... 1	Frederick Forsythe..... 3
Nehemiah Odway..... 1	Daniel G. Raitt..... 1
Ezekiel Wells..... 1	Edward Pettit..... 1
Roswell Wells..... 1	Harvey G. Morse..... 3
Seth Isham..... 1	Cyrus Butler..... 1
Epaphroditus Isham..... 1	Erastus Timney..... 1
Samuel B. Gibbs..... 1	Enos Gilbert..... 1
Daniel Stratton..... 1	Daniel Tilden..... 1
Andrew Woods..... 1	Henry Buckingham..... 1
Samuel B. Lewis..... 1	Moses Kimball..... 1
Henry Husburt..... 1	Platt Benedict..... 1
Eben Boalt..... 1	Samuel Prescott..... 2
Henry Huyck..... 2	Samuel Henry..... 1
John Dillingham..... 1	William Benton..... 1
— Buck..... 1	Ichabod Marshall..... 2
Daniel Sowers..... 1	Zachariah Marvin..... 1
John Dounce..... 1	Hallett Gallup..... 1
John Layland..... 1	Theodore Bangs..... 1
Edward Wheeler..... 3	Nathan B. Johnson..... 1
Josiah Wells..... 1	Ebenezer Lane..... 1
Asa Cole..... 2	Pickett Latimer..... 1
James Wilson..... 1	Timothy Baker..... 3
Malvery Inman..... 1	Luke Keeler..... 2
Charles Laylin..... 1	Lewis Keeler..... 1
John White..... 1	David Gibbs..... 1
Hanson Reed..... 2	Henry Lockwood..... 3
Lemuel Raymond..... 1	Thomas Buchanan..... 1
Thomas Holmes..... 1	Alfred Arnold..... 1
Asa Cole..... 3	John T. Hilton..... 1
Lucius Fay..... 1	

The whole amount of the white male inhabitants of the township of Norwalk is eighty. Attest by

LUKE KEELER,

Lister for the Township of Norwalk.

It is to be regretted that the foregoing "enumeration" was not more explicit in naming the inhabitants; nineteen persons are counted without being named. It is probable the list is imperfect. William Gallup, the head of a family, and within the class called for by the enumeration, does not appear. He did not belong in any of the families containing more than one person given above; the same is true of Benjamin Taylor, James Williams and some others.

CENSUS OF 1827.

County Assessors returns of the white male inhabitants, above the age of twenty-one years in Huron county, agreeable to an act regulating the mode of taking the enumeration of the white male inhabitants above the age of twenty-one years, passed January 10, 1827.

NORWALK 1821.

Levi Wilson.	Ichabod Marshall.	Benjamin Jenkins.
Samuel R. Gibbs.	Zachariah Marvin.	Mathew W. Jenkins.
Oliver Day.	Benjamin F. Harman.	Frederick Forsyth.
Selden Isham.	Daniel Tilden.	Oliver Woodhouse.
David Sutton.	Moses Kimball.	— Rood.
Epaphroditus Isham.	Timothy Baker.	Canb Gallup.
Roswell Wells.	Theodore Baker.	Barnet Clarkhoff.
Josiah Wells.	Pickett Latimer.	Asa H. Beard.
Ezekiel Wells.	David Gibbs.	Abraham Enmitt.
Ezekiel Wells, Jr.	Enos Gilbert.	Ery Keeler.
Lewis Keeler.	Augustus P. Tower.	Henry Husburt.
Jacob Tetter.	Gilbert Brightman.	John Miller.
Andrew Woods.	Samuel Preston.	Cyrus Butler.
Thomas Philips.	John P. McArdle.	William H. Hunter.
Obadiah Jenney.	William F. Kitterage.	William W. Nugent.
John V. Baskark.	Daniel G. Raitt.	John V. Vredenburg.
John V. Baskark, 2d.	John G. Tailor.	Mathew Callaway.
Richard Numsin.	Nelson Haughton.	Hallett Gallup.
Joseph Wilson.	Horace Howard.	James Williams, Esq.
Thaddeus B. Sturgis.	Asahel W. Howe.	Joseph Wilson, Jr.
Thomas Adams.	Isaac Wilson.	Charles L. Curtis.
Jacob Wilson.	William Benton.	William Gallup.
H. G. Morse.	Samuel Henry.	John V. Sharp.
Aurelius Mason.	James Springstead.	Henry Buckingham.
Benj. Curman.	Leverett Bradley.	Henry Rider.
Ebenezer Lane.	John Tice.	James Minschel.
C. P. Brouson.	Lewis Curtiss.	Carlton B. Cane.
Josiah Botsford.	Joseph C. Curtiss.	Lewis M. Howard.
Samuel Barnes.	Thomas Holmes.	John Ebert Jr.
Samuel Sherman.	James Wilson.	Jabez A. B. Calkins.
Luke Keeler.	Malvora Inman.	Daniel Stratton.
Ami Keeler.	Thomas Buchanan.	Charles Laylin.
Jonathan Jennings.	John White.	Perry G. Beckwith.
Andrew Millburn.	Union White.	Samuel B. Lewis.
Thomas Millburn.	John W. Haughton.	George Powers.
Lucius Fay.	Asa Cole.	Nathan Parks.
Asher Cole.	William Haughton.	Jonathan Brown.
Levi Cole.	Edward Wheeler.	Rufus Andrus.
Miner Cole.	Samuel Wheeler.	John T. Hilton.
Abel Brownell.	John Laylin.	Norwalk 18.
John Keeler.	John Dounce.	(The returns of other
Dr. Joseph Pearce.	John Dillingham.	towns omitted as not
Abraham Powers.	Jesse C. Brayman.	connected with Norwalk
Jacob Morton.	Henry Huyck.	history.)
Platt Benedict.	Michael F. Cisco.	
Jonas B. Benedict.	Seth Jennings.	

I, George Sheffield, Assessor of Huron County, certify that the foregoing is a correct list of the white male inhabitants above the age of twenty one years, taken by me agreeable to an act of the Legislature of the State of Ohio, passed January 10, 1827.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official signature this 4th day of June, 1827. GEORGE SHEFFIELD, *Assessor*.

The "poll-book" of an election held in Norwalk on the 2d of April, 1827, shows that the following persons voted at that election, whose names do not appear in the foregoing "enumeration":

Stephen V. R. Rogers.	Burrell Keeler.	David Lawrence.
Eben Boalt.	David H. Sutton.	Silvester Pomeroy.
Alpheus Buchanan.	William Miller.	Isaac M. Marvin.
Nelson Horton.	John Huyck.	Seth Keeler.
William Buck.	Robert Morton.	

NATHAN S. COMSTOCK.

At the time Norwalk, Connecticut, was burned (July 11, 1797) by General Tryon, in the "Revolutionary War," Thomas Comstock, of New Canaan, extended shelter, and such assistance as his means permitted, to many of the Norwalk sufferers. Not having the means of repaying his kindness, Simon Raymond and Gild Hoyt proposed to, and did release to him

any claims they might have against the government on account of their losses. As a result, he afterwards became the owner of a large tract of land in sections two and three of Norwalk, Ohio.

1806.—In this year, his son, Nathan S. Comstock, in company with several others, started on an exploring expedition to "spy out the country" where their new possessions lay. They spent some time in looking over the country, but not being provided with suitable maps or guides, were not certain they found the particular land they were in search of.

1809.—Early in the spring of this year, Nathan engaged the services of Darius Ferris and Elijah Hoyt to accompany him on a second expedition to Norwalk with the intention of making a permanent settlement. They started with a span of horses and wagon and such tools as would be necessary in clearing and building. At Buffalo they found it impracticable to proceed further with their wagon, so a small boat was purchased, into which their goods were packed, with the addition of a barrel of whisky. Two of them manned the boat, and proceeded up the lake, keeping near the shore, while the other took charge of the horses, and traveled overland, keeping near the lake. In this manner they reached the mouth of Huron river.

There were at that time quite a number of Indian settlements along that river, the largest of which was where the village of Milan now stands, and was called Pequatung. They were Moravians, in charge of a missionary named Frederick Drake, and had a mission house. Being very friendly, they offered the newcomers the use of their mission house until a structure could be erected to shelter them. A site was selected for the new house in section two, near a spring, and in the immediate neighborhood of the fine brick residence erected a few years ago by Philo Comstock, Esq., and now occupied by John Randolph, Esq., in section three of Norwalk. After cutting the logs, the few white men then in the country, of whom F. W. Fowler, of Milan, was one, were invited to assist in putting up the house.

This was the first house erected by white men, in the township of Norwalk, of which any record can be traced, and was, most probably, the pioneer house. It was not covered by a mansard roof; the windows were not set with crown-plate glass; the front door was not of carved walnut, nor mahogany; the back door did not exist; its floor was not covered with a brussels carpet; there was no piano and no sewing machine within its walls; upon the marble-topped center table (which was not there) lay no daily morning paper containing the latest telegraph news and the last time card of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Rail Road, nor even that of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad Company. In fact, it was no palatial residence, but rough and strong, and made for service like the strong-willed, iron-handed men who built it. Its roof was made of "shakes;" its walls of rough logs; its floor was the face of mother-earth, carpeted with the moss of the growth of ages;

the bedsteads were "bunks" with poles for springs, and their mattresses were sacks filled with leaves and mosses; its cooking range was a brass kettle hung on a pole supported by two crooked sticks driven into the floor, and its chimney was a hole left open in the roof. Rough, uncouth, homely, yet it was a *home*,—*the first home* of Norwalk.

The house having been erected, they next commenced a clearing of about ten acres which they completed, in a manner, and sowed to wheat that fall.

Nathan was a genuine Yankee, and possessed of the same fertility of genius that invented "wooden nutmegs." The Indians had got a taste of his whisky, and became frequent visitors; he improved the quantity of it by the addition of three gallons of water to each gallon of spirits, and the color and quality by adding burned maple sugar and wild cherries. This "doctored" compound he sold readily to the Indians as "French brandy" at one dollar a quart. It would be fortunate for the "red-nosed fraternity" of the present generation if they indulged in no worse brandy than was sold by Nathan S. Comstock in 1809.

While making their clearing, the three kept "bachelor's hall," and a common dish with them was pork and beans. One morning they set their pot of beans and pork over the fire, so as to have their dinner ready cooked when they should come in at mid-day, and then went to their work. When the sun marked noon, they returned in time to see two or three sneaking wolves disappear down a neighboring ravine, and found their fire burned out, their dinner gone, and the unlucky brass kettle much the worse from having been used as a platter by several wolves instead of one. It is probable those hungry men then indulged in a few remarks, not complimentary to the four-legged tramps.

The clearing having been made, and the wheat put in, they returned to Connecticut. Nathan intended to return the next spring with his family, and remain a permanent settler, but his health had become so poor in consequence of exposures and hardships experienced on his return in the fall of 1809, and his wife being unwilling to risk the hardships and privations of a frontier life, he resigned his interest in the west to his brother Abijah.

Nathan S. Comstock was the father of Philo Comstock, Esq., now living in Milan, Ohio, and grandfather of E. A. Comstock, of this village, and Mrs. John Randolph, of this township, and an uncle of Giles, Stephen and Augusta Bealt, of this village.

ABIJAH COMSTOCK.

Abijah Comstock was born at New Canaan, Connecticut, September 2, 1781, and in 1810 came to Norwalk, and by arrangement with his father and brother, Nathan S., took the interest of Nathan S. in the Norwalk land, and becoming an actual resident,—in the house built by his brother the year previous,—harvested the crop of wheat which had been put in by Nathan and his two hired men.

In the latter part of 1810 or fore part of 1811, he married Esther Iseft, sister of Hosmer Merry's wife, at that time living at the place which became what is now known as the "Old County Seat."

He brought with him from Connecticut two yoke of oxen, a wagon and the supplies necessary for his permanent sojourn, and was accompanied by a lad named Alfred Arnold, who is yet living in Townsend township, well advanced in years.

In 1812, his first child, Thomas, was born. When the child was only a day or two old, Alfred Arnold, who had been away on an errand through the woods, met, on his return, an Indian named Omick,* who stopped him and made very particular inquiry as to "How Comstock? How squaw? How pappoose?" The fact of the Indian being aware of the birth of the child, which had so recently occurred, surprised young Arnold, but he was quickly cured of that surprise by a greater one. The Indian seized him by the hair of his head and said, "Arnold no be afraid, Arnold good boy: Indian no scalp *Arnold*." He then released his grasp and plunged into the woods.

Arnold was so impressed by the questions, manner and actions of Omick, that he hastened home and told Comstock that they must leave at once, or they would be murdered. His warning was acted upon, the oxen and wagon got ready, and the whole family sought safety in flight toward the Vermillion river. Soon after, their house was burned by the Indians, probably by the same band that destroyed Benjamin Newcomb's house.

While Norwalk was yet attached to, and part of, the Township of Huron, Mr. Comstock was elected a justice of the peace. And he was also elected and served as the first county treasurer, but this position proved unfortunate for him. He was of a generous disposition, and could not refuse to grant a favor asked by one who came to him in need, or in the character of a friend, and looked upon all men as honest and meaning just what they said. No sooner had the taxes been collected and returned to him than he was successfully besieged by numerous applicants for temporary loans of money, each and all assuring him of their certainty of returning it to him before he should be called upon to account for it. The usual result in such cases followed, and he found the time for settlement at hand, but no funds. In this dilemma he hastened back to Connecticut, mortgaged all his interest in the Norwalk lands to his brother Nathan S., in exchange for money sufficient to meet his deficit; returned to Huron county, and fully paid up all his liabilities as treasurer, and from that

time to his death, remained a comparatively poor man, but always honorable and respected.

The mortgage was never paid, and the property eventually passed to Nathan, who, in 1828, sent his son Philo out to look after it, and so faithful has been his stewardship that he has remained looking after it to this day.

He died February 1, 1857, at the house of Stephen Boalt, whose mother was a sister to Nathan and Abijah.

BENJAMIN NEWCOMB.

Benjamin Newcomb was born in Durham, Connecticut. He there married, and afterwards with his wife and two sons, Samuel S. and Benjamin C., removed to Kinsman, Trumbull county, Ohio. From there at some time previous to the war of 1812, he removed to Norwalk township, and located in the southwest corner of section four on the farm now owned and occupied by Miner Cole. He probably took the land under a contract from Comfort S. Mygatt, but never obtained a deed. His name appears on the tax duplicate of personal property for 1815, but not on the real estate duplicate.

1815.—In the summer of this year, he transferred whatever interest he had in the land to Joseph Pierce, who afterwards, in 1816, sold it to Levi Cole who obtained a deed from Mygatt.

1816.—On July 4th, Mr. Newcomb was instantly killed by the kick of a horse.

While residing in Norwalk, he had occasion to go to Huron, and while there had an altercation with an intoxicated Indian who took offence at something Mr. Newcomb said or did. The Indian attacked him with an axe, but Mr. Newcomb took the axe away from him, and then knocked him down with his fist. The next day the Indian on horseback passed Mr. Newcomb near his house, and watching his opportunity, hit him a severe blow with a club. Mr. Newcomb sprang forward, seized the "red-skin" by one foot, dragged him from his pony, and gave him so severe a beating that he was thought to be dead, and was put in the fence corner, and the children covered him up with sticks and leaves, but the next morning he was gone.

Soon after Hull's surrender in August, 1812, John Laylin, then of Berlin township, while on his way to Greenfield to notify his uncle, Hanson Reed, of the danger from the Indians, called in the night, and gave the alarm to Newcomb that the Indians were coming, and they must at once leave the country. Very hastily such things as were necessary for a long tedious tramp through an almost trackless wilderness, were packed up, and the family, consisting of father, mother, two boys and an infant, Mary,* less than two years of age, started for the older settlements east. By day-break, they reached the "old State road," and at a place since called Parly's Corners, met other

* Mr. Arnold's recollection is, that it was Omick, but in this he is probably mistaken. For the incident related, is not likely to have occurred before the commencement of the war of 1812. Congress passed the act declaring that war on June 18th, and it was proclaimed on the next day. In April, 1812, Omick and another Indian, Semo, murdered Michael Gibbs and a Mr. Buel near "Ogontz Place" (now Sandusky City), and were soon after arrested, when Semo blew his own brains out with a gun, and Omick was taken to Cleveland, tried, convicted, and on June 26, 1812, executed.

* Mary Newcomb married Philo Comstock February 5, 1821, and died in September following; and a little over twenty years.

refugees from Huron. Together they kept on to Vermillion river, where a halt was made, and Mr. Newcomb returned to reconnoiter, and reached his place, two or three days after leaving it, in time to see, from a safe cover, his house burned by the Indians, and he supposed they must have been led there by the one he had so severely punished some time before, as it was the only house burned so far away from the lake. After crossing the Vermillion river, they directed their course to the "portage" of Cuyahoga river, from there to Charlestown, and from there to Vernon, and from there Mr. Newcomb entered the army as a teamster. In preparing for flight, Mr. Newcomb hid his log-chains and some other property in a hole he dug in the ground, but upon his return after the war, could not find where he had made his deposit, and the articles have never been found.

Towards night of the next day after Newcomb and family had left their house, several persons from the township of Wheatborough, now Lyme, fleeing from the dreaded Indian incursion, reached the deserted house, and determined to camp there over night. They "hopped" their horses by tying their front feet so near together that they could not step more than about a foot at a time, and let them loose to feed; then commenced to prepare their supper, which they soon had ready, and were about commencing to eat when they were startled by the much dreaded and unearthly Indian war-whoop. Stricken with horror, they stood not upon the order of their going, but precipitately sought safety in the darkness of the unbroken forest; their horses, goods and tempting supper were left behind; even their guns were abandoned, so complete and bewildering was their surprise; life, or torture and death hung upon the action of moments; property, resistance, the means of protection were unthought of, in the dire necessity for immediate escape and shelter from the merciless foe who tortured for pleasure, and murdered for revenge.

They all escaped successfully, and hour after hour, all night long, hurried southward through the swamps, thickets; and over the fallen logs of the trackless wilderness; at day-break, they were near the south line of the county, some of them so nearly exhausted that they wanted to halt and rest, but others of the party insisted the Indians could follow their track like a pack of wolves, and so the weary, famishing flight, kept on during the long, long hours of the day, until the weaker ones were ready to fall out of line, abandon the escape, and submit to their fate. But there were warm hearts and strong hands in that party. A long light pole was secured, each person took firm hold of it, and thus, the strong supporting the weak, the weary march dragged on, and did not stop until Mansfield and safety were reached.

The day this party passed through the township of Ridgfield on their way to Newcomb's house, Reuben Pixley, Sr., then living in Ridgfield township, heard in some way that there was no danger to be apprehended from the Indians, and started after the party

to induce them to return. On his way he met Seth Brown who lived in the fourth section of Ridgfield, and consented to accompany Pixley in search of the refugees.

They arrived near Newcomb's place, just as the party were about to commence eating their supper, and thinking to have some sport, tried their ability to counterfeit the hideous war-whoop of the savages. The success of their powers of imitation was greater than they had anticipated, and although they made strenuous efforts to overtake the frightened people, and explain their little joke, were totally unable to do so. They remained at Newcomb's house that night, fared sumptuously, and in the morning returned with the abandoned property, and soon sent word on to Mansfield explaining their miserable practical joke. This story was recently related to the writer by Miner Cole, Esq., of this township, who says he has heard it many times from the lips of Reuben Pixley, Sr., one of the practical jokers.

The Newcomb house, burned by the Indians in 1812, stood on the east side of the creek, close under the hill, and but a few rods from the town line between Norwalk and Bronson. There are now standing near its site a stately poplar and an old decrepit apple tree planted there by that early settler nearly seventy years ago.

A military road or trail then existed upon the town line, just south of his house, which Mr. Newcomb had assisted in opening, and it was while at work on that road that he was attracted by the beauty of that particular location which afterwards he settled upon as related.

At the close of the war, he returned to his place, and erected another log house on the west side of the creek, on a gravel bluff overlooking the valley. From that bluff the gravel was taken that filters the water used by the citizens of Norwalk from the water works, and West Main street was graveled partly from the same source.

Yesterday, May 2, 1879, the writer and his little daughter, in company with Miner Cole, visited the spot: the old house is gone: its site is marked by an indentation where the cellar used to be, and the old hearthstones yet remain in place. Standing upon that memento of the first steps of civilization, and looking forth in the bright sunlight of the balmy May afternoon, over the beautiful valley at his feet, upon which a flock of sheep and lambs were grazing, busy fancies brought to him echoes of the scream of the panther and howl of the wolf, followed by the ringing sound of the woodman's axe, and the voices of children playing at the creek, then by screams and shouts of terror-stricken fugitives, soon followed by the dim vision of a stealthy band of half-naked, painted savages, quickly made distinct in all their wild orgies by the lurid light of a burning home: then another sound broke in, gentle, sweet and pleading—"Papa, please buy me a little baa-baa-lamb?"

The contrast was too great: the fancies took to

flight, else the writer to this hour might have stood on that ancient hearth, listening to echoes from the remote past.

SAMUEL B. LEWIS

1814.—Mr. Lewis was born in South Salem, Westchester county, New York, in 1790, and died at Norwalk, July 14, 1870, in the eighty-first year of his age.

In 1814, he purchased two hundred acres of land about one and a half miles south of the present location of the village of Norwalk, paying for it two dollars per acre, and in the spring of that year came on to make preparation for a permanent settlement. He made some clearing, and put in a small piece of wheat, then returning to New York.

1815.—On the fifteenth of February, 1815, he started with his family, then consisting of his wife and a little daughter, named Angeline, (who died at Norwalk, September 1, 1817), for the new home in the West. The journey was made in a covered wagon drawn by a span of horses, and required *forty-six days* to complete. They arrived at Norwalk, April 2, 1815, or rather, they arrived at their new home on that day, for Norwalk was yet to be; only an "Indian trail" marked the crest of the "sand ridge" where Main street now is.

Soon after arriving with his family, he sold the land upon which he had commenced his improvements the year before, to Hanson Reed, for five dollars per acre, and purchased another tract of two hundred acres, in section one, for one dollar and fifty cents per acre.

During the summer and autumn of 1815, he built a house on his new purchase, and in that house the election for State officers, of October, 1818, was held.

In an article written by Mr. Lewis, and published in the *Fire-lands Pioneer*, of June, 1858, and from which most of the foregoing facts of his history have been taken, he says:

"When I first came to Ohio, provisions of all kinds were scarce, and prices high. Wheat was sold at two dollars per bushel, also the first oats I sowed cost me two dollars per bushel; I bought them of Judge Meeker, on the lake shore, as I came into the country; and at another time I paid him five dollars for a common axe, and went *twelve miles* for it; however, upon the cessation of the war of 1812, people having turned their attention more to clearing their lands, and to agriculture, when soon field was added to field, and farm to farm, and, rich in their virgin soil, they sent forth their luxuriant harvests until plenty filled the land. Then produce fell to an extremely low price; so low that the year previous to the opening of the New York and Erie canal, the most that I could get offered for a fine quality of wheat, was *twelve and a half cents per bushel*, and haul it a distance of six miles to market, which was then at Milan."

In those early days, wild turkeys were very plenty,

and did great damage to wheat and corn crops. Mr. Lewis relates that in 1827, they were so numerous as to endanger his wheat crop. He built a rail pen about eleven feet square, with rails laid near together on top. A trap-door was provided, and grain freely scattered around and within the pen. The turkeys came, entered the trap, and his first catch was nine fat birds, but one got away. Two or three days afterwards, twelve more fell victims to the trap, and this put an end to their depredations, for no others came around that season.

During the infancy of the settlement of Norwalk, Mr. Lewis' house was always open, free of charge, to the new comers, who sought his hospitality, and on one occasion, from the frequency of such calls upon him, his stock of bread-stuffs ran very short. There were no mills in the country, and no flour market nearer than Mansfield, and no road practicable for a wagon to that place; so he went there on horseback, and constructing a rude rack to fit the back of his horse, loaded a barrel of flour on that, and in that manner transported it home.

On another occasion he was called back to the east, and performed the whole journey from Norwalk to Jersey City, on foot.

Mr. Lewis, with another pioneer, named William Marshall, a surveyor, traveled over and surveyed many of the lands in Huron county. These two went days and sometimes weeks together through the wilderness, camping out nights, while they were surveying farms, and running out public roads.

He held at different times the office of justice of the peace, township trustee, assessor, and lister.

The maiden name of his wife was Amy Ferris. She was born at Newtown, Fairfield county, Connecticut, and until her death, in October, 1856, bore her share of the privations of pioneer life cheerfully, and with courage.

In those early days, they were surrounded by the dense wilderness, the home of thousands of savage men, bears, wolves and panthers.

On one occasion, when there was no one at home but Mrs. Lewis and her little daughter, there came on horseback to the house two Indian women, or squaws, who wanted flour, which was kept in the house up stairs. Mrs. Lewis went up, and was getting the flour, when the two squaws followed, and commenced impudently lifting the lids of boxes and barrels, to see what they contained. Mrs. Lewis shook her head at them, and they shook their heads at her. When the flour was put up, they all descended, and one of the squaws seized the little girl, then nearly two years old, and the two hastened to their horses, mounted and galloped away with the child before Mrs. Lewis fully realized what they were at. But the mother's heart quickly took the alarm, and desperation nerved her to an almost superhuman effort for the recovery of her little one. The route taken by the squaws would compel them, at the distance of about one mile, to pass the house of another

settler,* but before that was reached, the mother was so close after them, and screaming so lustily, that they dared not pass the settler's clearing, ahead of them, with the child, for fear of being captured, so the child was put down on the ground, the squaws scampered off with all the speed they could get out of their ponies, and the mother returned home with her child and a heart full of thankfulness.

DR. JOSEPH PIERCE.

1815.—Dr. Joseph Pierce came to Norwalk in 1815, in company with Major David Underhill, Timothy Baker, Levi Cole and Horace Morse. That summer he purchased of Benjamin Newcomb all the interest held by the latter in lot number one of section four of Norwalk, being the Newcomb place, now Miner Cole's farm, and, in 1816, transferred his interest to Levi Cole, but continued, with his sister Rhoda, to make it his home with Mr. Cole for a number of years. He was the first practicing physician in Norwalk township, and the first postmaster, of which more particular mention is made under the head of "First Post Office." Dr. Pierce was from Herkimer county, New York. He remained here until about 1825, and then removed to New Haven and remained for some time, and then removed to Indiana.

LEVI COLE.

Levi Cole was born in Windom county, Connecticut, November 20, 1766, married November 25, 1790, and died February 11, 1826, at Norwalk, Ohio. His wife, Hannah Kinney, was born in Windom county, Connecticut, July 24, 1770, and died at Norwalk, Ohio, February 27, 1840. They had seven sons, as follows: Jeremy, born March 17, 1795; died July 30, 1818; came to Ohio in 1815. Asher, born April 23, 1797; died November 4, 1830; came to Ohio in 1816. James, born April 25, 1799; now living in Norwalk township; came to Ohio in 1816. Levi, born March 23, 1801; now living in Ridgefield township; came to Ohio in 1816. Miner, born July 26, 1803; now living in Norwalk township; came to Ohio in 1816. Manly K., born February 11, 1807; now living in Bronson township; came to Ohio in 1816. Lyman, born March 10, 1810; died October 10, 1843; came to Ohio in 1816.

In 1814, Mr. Cole was living in Herkimer county, New York, and, that year, in company with Major David Underhill and Timothy Baker, came on to look at lands held by Mr. Underhill in Ridgefield township. He was pleased with the land and bargained for a piece this side of the present farm of Sidney Brown, and then returned home.

In 1815, he came out again, accompanied by his son Jeremy, Horace Morse, Dr. Joseph Pierce and David Underhill, put up a house on the land, commenced a clearing, and otherwise prepared for bring-

ing his family out the next year. In the Fall, leaving Jeremy to look after the place and continue the improvements, he returned home again.

During this visit, and on the 16th day of July, 1815, he, Major Underhill and Dr. Joseph Pierce, brushed out a "trail," or road, from Abijah Comstock's place to the "Sand Ridge," as it was then called (now Norwalk), and at night returned and stayed at Comstock's until the next day, and then started out and completed their work through to Underhill's place on the 17th. This was the first highway labor ever done on Main street. It was not done in pursuance of an ordinance, and no street commissioner "bossed" the job; perhaps that will account for its rapid completion. They followed the old "Indian trail," which came out on to the ridge somewhere between Milan and Chatham streets.

In January of 1816, Mr. Cole and Major Underhill started with their families and such goods and supplies as they might require in their new homes, with six teams and sleighs, three to each family. The party contained twenty persons, to-wit: Mr. and Mrs. Cole and six of their boys, Mr. and Mrs. Underhill and six children, Jasper Underhill (a nephew of the Major), Daniel Warren, Marks Rosbeck, Rhoda Pierce, sister to Joseph Pierce, and a person by the name of Wilcox.

After spending six weeks upon the road (five days resting at Avery, the old county seat,) they reached Major Underhill's on the 22d day of February, 1816. The Huron river was then so high that Mr. Cole could not cross with his family and teams to his own house, so he took them to Dr. Pierce's house (the Benjamin Newcomb place), and soon after purchased that place, and remained there so long as he lived.

1818.—In this year Mr. Cole took a prominent part in the movement which culminated in the removal of the county seat to Norwalk, of which a more particular account is given in another part of this history.

On the 9th of February, 1820, Mr. Cole was engaged hauling a large saw-log, to which four yoke of oxen were attached, by a chain, into Underhill's saw-mill yard: finding it was likely to strike another log which projected partly over the road, he attempted to jump over the chain, and in doing so one of his limbs was caught between the logs, and so terribly crushed that he died two days afterwards.

DAVID GIBBS AND HENRY LOCKWOOD.

David Gibbs and Henry Lockwood were natives of Norwalk, Connecticut, and were brothers-in-law, Mrs. Gibbs being Lockwood's sister.

In the summer of 1815, Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Lockwood, his father, L. Lockwood, and Stephen Lockwood, left Norwalk, Connecticut, to look up homes in Ohio. After visiting and examining several places they at last, after ten week's travel and prospecting, arrived at Abijah Comstock's place in Norwalk, Ohio, on the 16th day of July, 1815. There they met Major David Underhill, Levi Cole and Dr. Joseph Pierce, who had

*This was probably Captain John Beall's place, on the corner of what is now Medina street, and the "Old State Road," where the sexton's house stands, on the grounds of Woodlawn Cemetery.

been at work that day clearing out a road to the sand ridge, on which Norwalk now is located.

After spending about a week in examining lands belonging to L. Lockwood, in Norwalk township, they selected a site for a home on the hill just south of the first creek, on the section line road going north from the present "Alling's Corners," and on the east side of that road. During the months of August, September and part of October, they cleared off and put into wheat about six acres of land, and put up a large double log house.

There were then three families living in the township, those of Abijah Comstock, Benjamin Newcomb and Samuel B. Lewis. Gibbs and the two Lockwoods boarded at Comstock's while engaged in making their improvements. Provisions were scarce. Salt was not to be obtained, for there was then none in that part of the country, and as a consequence the family and boarders frequently were compelled to use meat that was more odorous than palatable. Bread, milk and potatoes were their only other reliance.

When the walls of the house were up ready for the roof, they let to Benjamin Newcomb a contract for its completion, and started back to Connecticut.

At this time, the sand ridge from Alling's or Gibbs's Corners to Major Underhill's place (the present Isaac Underhill farm) was covered sparsely by oak trees, forming what was called an "oak opening." Whortleberry bushes and columbo grew in abundance, the root of the latter being used by the inhabitants as a tonic in bilious diseases. The oak trees were of the scrub variety, specimens of which may yet be seen both in the east and west ends of the village.

On the 24th day of January, 1816, they left Norwalk, Connecticut, with their families, and arrived at their new home in Norwalk, Ohio, on the 30th of April, having been ninety-five days in making the journey. The party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs, their daughter Eliza (now Mrs. Pruden Alling, yet living in Norwalk), then five years old; their son David, three years old; Mr. Henry Lockwood, his wife and their little child Henry; and Lewis Keeler, who came along as a teamster in charge of the baggage wagon, drawn by two yoke of oxen.

Mrs. Gibbs and Mrs. Lockwood, with their children, were provided with a substantial wagon, covered with oil-cloth, lined with blankets, carpeted and provided with spring seats; very comfortable and decent, and drawn by a heavy span of bay horses. They were well clothed, and provided with abundant blankets and a foot stove. Their provision chest contained cold chickens, hams, hard biscuit, pies, dough-nuts by the bushel, tea, coffee, pickles, dried fruit, preserves, and all the necessary etceteras, so they were "well-to-do" in the world.

On the 20th of February, in crossing Cattaraugus creek, west of Buffalo, on the ice, their baggage wagon broke through near the west shore. One yoke of oxen, a horse which they had purchased on the way as a leader for the ex team, and many of their

house-keeping articles, were lost. In this dilemma they were assisted by some friendly Indians, who, by diving and fishing with poles, brought up most of the lost articles, among them a box of log chains, axes, plow-shares, kitchen ware, etc. They were paid for their services thirty or forty dollars. They also brought up the bodies of the two oxen, gave up the hides and shoes, but eagerly accepted the carcasses for food. This mishap caused a halt of about a week, during which little Henry Lockwood sickened and died. Soon afterwards, at Fredonia, little David Gibbs was taken severely ill, and after lingering twelve days also died. The trouble was "camp dysentery," and several others of the party were also attacked, but all recovered.

The expense of this enforced sojourn at Fredonia was over five hundred dollars, provisions being scarce and high, codfish fifty cents per pound, and other things in proportion.

Their house was built double, with a hall through the center open at both ends; the window sash were slats fastened together, and set with greased paper instead of glass; the doors were rough slabs split out of logs; and the first table was a square one, with no leaves, hewed out of a black-walnut log.

After the privation and sufferings and sorrows of their long, exhausting march, this homely two-roomed house seemed to these weary travelers a very palace and haven of rest; and not only to them, but to many who came after. At one time, for some days, their families were increased to forty souls. Among them were the families of Platt Benedict, seven persons; and Captain John Boalt, father of the late Charles L. Boalt, thirteen persons, of whom nine were down with the ague.

For all this numerous family Mrs. Gibbs did the cooking, baking, etc., with rude and limited utensils designed for less than one-fourth of that number; whilst Mrs. Lockwood ministered to the sick with means for their comfort equally limited. But they had strength given them for the task, and were blessed and happy in their labors of love. They were at one time short of provisions, and had to send to Cleveland for flour and pay twenty-five dollars per barrel, and for pork about the same; the families in the meantime subsisting, for a week, on milk and potatoes alone.

Mr. Lockwood remained in Norwalk only a few years, and then removed to Milan. Mr. Gibbs was elected the first justice of the peace in Norwalk township in April, 1817, and was appointed county clerk in 1825, and continued to hold that office until his death, at Norwalk, March 16, 1840, aged fifty-one years, nine months and twenty-four days. His wife, Elizabeth L. Gibbs, died at Norwalk October 4, 1873, aged eighty-two years, six months and eleven days. They were the parents of ten children, viz: An infant, died in Connecticut; David, died at Fredonia in 1816; a little daughter, died in 1822, aged one year, seven months and twenty-two days; James B., died

August 3, 1850, aged twenty-eight years, two months and thirteen days; Ralph M., died August 16, 1854, aged thirty years and sixteen days (of cholera); Mrs. Eliza Alling, now living at Norwalk, the only survivor of 1816; David, now living at Le Mars, Iowa; Roswell, now living at Troy, Miami county, Ohio; Charles (Rev.), now living at Cedar Falls, Iowa; Mrs. S. L. Adams, now living at Clarksville, Huron county, Ohio.

FIRST MARRIAGE.

In Vol. I. of Marriage Records of Huron County, on page nine, appears the following entry:

William Gallup and Sally Boalt were joined in marriage on the 2d day of May, 1819, by

DAVID W. HINMAN,
Justice Peace.

Upon a careful examination of the record of marriages, the foregoing is found to be the first one in which the marriage was solemnized in the township, between parties, both residents. And Henry Lockwood, Esq., in an article published in the *Pioneer* of May, 1859, on page twenty-eight says: "About the marriages we are uncertain. Hallet and William Gallup were among the first."

William Gallup was born at Kingston, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1794, and, in 1816, in company with his brother Hallet, came to Ohio, but not to Norwalk until 1818. He built the old frame block of stores now occupied by Link's grocery, James Seeley's shoe store, and the Casper Brothers. It was one of the first ventures in the new village to provide business rooms for renting. The second story was used by him as a cabinet shop and furniture ware-room. He was the contractor who built the "Old Court House," now Central Hotel, on Whittlesey avenue. He died at Tiffin, Ohio, January 13, 1858.

Sally Boalt was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, and came to Norwalk, Ohio, with her father's family, in 1817. She was a sister of Charles L. Boalt and daughter of Captain John Boalt, who made his first settlement in this township upon the present cemetery property. And there in their new double log house she was married.

Her death occurred at Osborn, Greene county, Ohio, January 26, 1871. Her husband's remains were then taken from Tiffin, and, with hers, brought to Norwalk, and, side by side, laid away to rest within about twenty rods of the site of the log house where they were married.

FIRST BIRTH.

Soon after Hull's surrender at Detroit in August of 1812, Thomas, son of Abijah Comstock, was born on section two of Norwalk. When he was only a few days old, his parents had to flee from their home to escape the Indians, which they did just in time, taking him and their other valuables with them, for the night after their departure their house was burned. This was the first white child born in Norwalk, and that pioneer is yet living, a resident of Ridgeville, Lorain county, Ohio.

FIRST DEATH.

In all the researches made by the writer after data from which to compile the history of Norwalk, the first death of which he has found any record, was that of Angeline Lewis. She was the daughter of Samuel B. and Amy Lewis; born at South Salem, Westchester county, New York, probably in the fall of 1814; was brought by her parents to Norwalk in the spring of 1815, and died September 1, 1817. She was probably the child stolen by two squaws, and rescued by her mother, of which an account is given in the history of Samuel B. Lewis.

THE FIRST SAW AND GRIST MILL.

In the spring or summer of 1815, Hanson Reed, then living in Greenfield, purchased of Samuel B. Lewis, the place upon which Mr. Lewis had erected a house the previous year.

He soon moved in with his family, and in 1816 or 1817, commenced building a saw mill on the creek which runs through the present L. B. Mesnard and S. J. Rogers farms, on the north side of the Fairfield road, and a few rods to the west of the stone bridge over that creek. In erecting this mill, he was assisted by his father-in-law, Mr. Abraham Powers. Soon after its completion, it was destroyed by fire. The two men then made a workshop of the house, and commenced work on the machinery of another mill, and in about five weeks had it completed, running and doing a good business, but when the fall rains came on, a freshet swept away their dam. They were now without funds, all having been put into building and re-building, but were not discouraged; the dam was soon replaced, and then they began to plan for a grist mill attachment to the saw mill, and carried their plans into execution in a year or two afterwards.

These were the first mills erected in the township. The old frame was taken down several years ago, but the old dam is destined to remain, perhaps, for centuries, for it forms part of the road embankment across the ravine.

MURDER OF WOOD AND BISHOP.

Early in April, 1819, John Wood, a married man, keeping tavern at Venice, George Bishop, a single man, by occupation a sailor, living in Panbury, Abiather Shirley, and Barnabus Meeker, organized a hunting and trapping expedition to the "Peninsula," now part of Ottawa county.

They made their camp in a little cabin near the bank of the Portage, then called "Carrying River," about twelve miles from its mouth. About the middle of April, Meeker and Shirley left the camp, and returned to their homes, Wood and Bishop still remaining to prosecute their enterprise. Being well supplied with traps, ammunition, and camp equipment, and being expert in hunting and trapping, they were quite successful, and had accumulated quite a

stock of skins of the fur-bearing animals, then numerous in that wild, unsettled region.

At that time there was a camp of Ottawa Indians on the bank of the "Miami of the Lakes," (now Maumee River). About the middle of April, three members of that tribe, named Negosheek, (Ne-go-sheek), Negoneba, (Ne-gon-e-ba), and Negossum, (Ne-gossum), the last a boy of about seventeen years of age, started on an expedition to the mouth of the Portage river, and while passing down the river in their canoes, discovered the trapper's camp, and, no doubt, with their usual cunning, became fully posted as to its valuable contents. They stayed around the mouth of the river a day or two, "loafing," and the two oldest drinking whisky, the boy doing what he could to prevent their getting drunk. On their return up the river, Negosheek plotted the murder of Wood and Bishop, and the plunder of their camp. Negoneba consented and agreed to assist; the boy, Negossum, remaining passive from fear of Negosheek, who was a "bad Indian" when drunk. On the morning of Wednesday, April 21, about two hours before daylight, they reached the cabin of the trappers, and, stealthily approaching, Negosheek and Negoneba drew aside the blanket which hung as a curtain over the doorway, entered, and finding the trappers asleep, each singled out his victim, and with their ever present tomahawks, quickly sent the two white men to a happier hunting ground. Then calling in Negossum, the boy, who had remained outside, Negosheek compelled him to strike the legs of one of the dead men with the handle of his tomahawk, so that he should feel that he too was a party to the crime, and from fear of the consequences as to himself, keep it a secret.

They now plundered the camp of its contents, consisting of a gun, tea-kettle, spider, some flour, a blanket, tow-shirt, a handkerchief, two powder horns and powder, nine traps, three dozen muskrat skins, some pork, and from one of the men three dollars in silver money. They hid the kettle, spider, flour, traps and gun on the west side of a small stream called Crane Creek, and selling the skins to a French trader, named Guy, who was stationed a few miles away, then immediately started for their camp on the Maumee.

The testimony taken at the subsequent trial shows that they soon very indiscreetly divulged their secret to a half-breed Indian, named Chazee, (Cha-zee), who on going down the river, found the murdered men still lying in their cabin where slain. He went on to the mouth of the river, and informed one Charles C. Tupper, a constable, of the facts, who at once obtained a warrant from Truman Pettibone, a justice of the peace for Danbury township.

Armed with this warrant, and accompanied by Anson Gray, Peter Mauminin, (and perhaps others, though it is not possible at this distant day to ascertain whom, or how many), he at once went to the camp of the Ottawas, on the Maumee, and made

known his errand to a friendly Indian, named Sac-saw, who at once pointed out the three implicated Indians, and they were promptly arrested, the chief informed of the charge against them, and the long and tedious return march commenced.

On April 30, Tupper returned the warrant to the justice, with the three prisoners, and an examination was at once held, the result of which was the holding of the accused for trial in the court of common pleas. At that examination John B. Flannond, a French trader, acted as interpreter.

Negossum, the boy, was first examined, and confessed that he was present with the others when they committed the murder, but protested his innocence. Negoneba was next examined, and confessed that he was one of the men who committed the murder on Portage river nine nights before; claiming that Negossum, the boy, struck one of the men they were murdering, with the handle of his hatchet; and that Negosheek first plotted the murder, and struck the first blow. He also confessed the taking and secreting the property, and the sale of some of it. Negosheek was next examined, and confessed the crime. He said when sober he had no idea of committing the murder, but on getting drunk, he plotted the attack, and assisted in executing it.

The prisoners were then shackled, and in charge of Tupper and his assistants, started for the county seat, Norwalk.

The party crossed Sandusky Bay on a ferry, kept by a man named Luther Chapin, at "Ogontz Place," now Sandusky City. They stayed from the evening of April 30th to May 3d, at an inn kept by Cyrus W. Marsh. Their bill of fare, afterwards allowed by the county commissioners, and now on file in the auditor's office, is as follows:

VOUCHER 577.

1812.	HURON COUNTY.	Dr. to C. W. MARSH.
	By Mr. Tupper.	
April 30	To 1 pt. w'y and seven suppers for Indians on guard.....	87½
	To 1 pt. of whisky.....	25
	To 3 suppers for the prisoners.....	1 12
May 1	To 5½ pts. of w'y.....	92½
	To 7 breakfasts for the Indians.....	2 02½
	To 2 breakfasts and 2 suppers for himself.....	1 50
" 3	To 4½ pts. w'y and 1 lodging.....	63½
	To 3½ day's board for 2 prisoner.....	3 50
	To 1 day's board for 1 prisoner.....	50
" 3	To breakfast for 3 Indians.....	1 32½
	To 3½ pts. w'y and 1 lodging.....	50
	To 1 day's board for Tupper.....	75
	Tupper.....	\$15 20
May 17	To entertainment on his return with the prisoner.....	1 31½
	Capt. Burt's bill, by Tupper's orders.....	87½

While at Sandusky one of the Indians was taken back to the scene of the murder, in order to point out the precise locality of the hidden property, which he did, and nearly all was recovered.

On arriving at Norwalk, there being no jail then, they were all confined in a log cabin owned by Daniel G. Raitt, which then stood on the lot the "Newman block" now stands on (northwest corner of Main and Hester streets), and a few rods back from Main street.

In this cabin they were kept, with the shackles on, under the guard of Daniel G. Raitt, Charles Soules, Charles C. Tupper, J. G. Thayer, Calvin Bates, and perhaps others whose names are now lost to history. These guards were not all on duty at the same time, but served at different times as a relief to each other.

After being in confinement a short time the Indians planned an escape, and Negoneba and Negossum succeeded in removing their shackles, hiding them behind a log, and by keeping covered up with their blankets and feigning sleep escaped the suspicion of the guards. Raitt was on guard the night of their escape, but at midnight was relieved by Soules. Not long afterward Negosheek asked him to remove his shackles and accompany him outside the building a few steps. Soules removed the shackles from one leg, leaving it fast to the other, and, supposing the two others sound asleep, left the door open as they went out; very soon after he saw the two Indians running away, and at once realized that he had been made the victim of misplaced confidence; he called to them, and also to Raitt, for the purpose of arousing him, and as he did so Negosheek jumped up and started to run. Soules had his rifle with him and, as he gave chase, fired at the retreating savage, and before losing sight of him loaded and fired twice more. Satisfied that he had wounded the fellow, and all having escaped, he returned to town.

On the 15th of April, John Hawk, a young man, while out hunting along Pipe creek, near the west boundary of the county, discovered Negosheek in a swamp along the border of the creek, hunting for "craw-fish" (the river lobster or crab), upon which, with roots, he had lived since escaping. The shackle, which was fast to one leg when he ran away, had stuck to him like a brother, though rather an inconvenient appendage in his case. After watching him for a short time, Hawk became satisfied that the Indian was suffering from wounds, and concluded to investigate his discovery more closely, and upon approaching nearer saw the shackles which the Indian vainly tried to conceal; he then captured the fellow and took him to an old hunter named John Pumphrey, who brought him back to Norwalk. Pumphrey afterward, on behalf of Hawk and himself, filed a claim for the reward of one hundred and twenty-five dollars which the sheriff had offered for the recapture of the three Indians, of which claim the commissioners allowed twenty-five dollars.

Dr. Daniel Tilden was called in to attend to the wounded prisoner, and examination developed the fact that Soule was good at a running shot, for there was one wound in the shoulder, one in the hip, and one in the leg.

Raitt undertook the position of nurse to the wounded and half-famished prisoner, and turned him over fully healed before he was hung. From that day to his death Raitt bore the pre-fix of "Doc."

Soon after the escape of the Indians, Captain John Boalt, the father of the late C. L. Boalt, Captain

Henry Burt, of Monroeville, and the Frenchman, John B. Flammond, started for the Ottawa camp on the Maumee river, with the expectation of finding and re-capturing the fugitives; they arranged among themselves that Captain Burt, who was dressed in "regimentals" (military uniform), should be presented to the Ottawa chief as the governor of Ohio, and that as such he should demand the surrender of the murderers. The plan proved a success, and Negoneba was immediately delivered up to them, searched, deprived of his weapons, his hands bound behind him, and with a rope fastened around his body as a leading string, placed in charge of Captain Burt and a guard, of friendly Indians, and conducted to Norwalk. The chief insisted that Negossum, the boy, was innocent, but upon being assured if that were true, he would not be injured, promised to send him on to Norwalk in a few days. Captain Boalt and Flammond remained to see that the promise should be fulfilled; it was, to the letter, and in due time they returned the boy to the custody of the sheriff at Norwalk.

Captain Burt, with his prisoner and Indian guards, made their way directly for the shore of Lake Erie. The first night they camped in the woods; it was wet and uncomfortable; Burt wanted a fire; upon being promised a quart of whisky, one of the guards gathered some dry leaves upon which he emptied some powder from his horn, and bending over the pile, struck sparks of fire into it with flint and steel; an explosion followed, and the Indian, taken by surprise, jumped high in the air, but the fire was started, and the whisky was forgotten by the faithless "pale-face." He, however, was reminded of the promise the next day, by the Indian performing in pantomime what he had acted in earnest the night before: the whisky was delivered, and faith was kept.

At the lake shore the Indian guards turned back, and Burt leading his prisoner by the rope, proceeded on his journey. Once Negoneba thought his chance had come to escape, and with a sudden spring, made a bold and desperate strike for liberty, but Burt, who was a large, muscular man, in the prime of life, gave him some vigorous jerks with the rope; and then seizing him by the shoulders, shook him so severely as to effectually quell all thoughts of further resistance.

They arrived at Marsh's tavern on the 17th of May, and from there Tupper accompanied them to Norwalk. Here Negoneba was again searched, and a knife, probably given him by his squaw just before the commencement of the journey, was found secreted on his person. Had Burt been less watchful and determined, he probably would have followed Wood and Bishop to the happy hunting ground, on a free pass from the hand of this desperate savage.

On Tuesday, the 18th of May, 1819, the court or common pleas commenced its session in the old court house, which then stood where the present court house now stands, but was removed many years ago.

to the east side of "Enterprise Road," afterwards "Mechanic street," now "Whittlesey avenue," and is the "Central Hotel" building, kept by A. H. Rose.

Hon. George Tod, father of Ex-governor Tod, was presiding judge: Hons. Jabez Wright, Stephen Meeker and Ezra Sprague were the associate judges. The late James Williams, of Norwalk, was clerk; Lyman Farwell, then of Norwalk, since for many years of Watertown, New York, sheriff: Ebenezer Lane, then of Norwalk, and for many years since chief justice of Ohio, was prosecuting attorney, and was assisted by Peter Hitchcock, of Cleveland, afterward for many years a judge of the supreme court of Ohio.

The indictment returned by the grand jury against these Indians charges the crime to have been committed "at Lower Sandusky in the said county of Huron." It will be seen by reference to Chase's Statutes, vol. 3, page 2,110, that Huron county was set off, February 7th, 1809, as the five western-most ranges of the Connecticut Western Reserve; being that part called the Fire-lands: By act of January 31st, 1815 (Chase's Statutes, vol. 3, page 2,120), a portion of the unorganized territory west of the Reserve and north of its south line, reaching about as far west as the present western boundaries of Sandusky and Ottawa counties, was attached to Huron county for judicial purposes: Lower Sandusky was within this attached territory.

A copy of the indictment found against the three parties charged, taken from the first volume of "Law Records" of Huron county court of common pleas, is as follows:

Held before the honorable, the president, and judges of the court of common pleas, holden at Norwalk, in and for the county of Huron and State of Ohio, in the term of May, A.D., 1819.

NO. 6—MAY TERM, A.D., 1819.

STATE OF OHIO

VS

NEGOSHEEK,
NEGONEBY
AND
NEGOSUM.

Indictment for Murder.

State of Ohio, County of Huron.

At a court of common pleas begun and holden at the court house in Norwalk, within and for the county of Huron, on the eighth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, before the honorable George Tod, president, and Jabez Wright, Stephen Meeker and Ezra Sprague, Esqs., associate judges holding said court. The grand jurors of the State of Ohio, in and for said county of Huron, to-wit: Henry Jeffry, Tinker R. Smith, Isaac Powers, Elibu Clary, John Brewry, Augustus R. Demick, Daniel Curtis, Ezekiel Barnes, James Forman, Charles Hubbell, Reuben Pixley, Henry Barney, Silas G. Strong, William Gallup and Eli Holliday, good and lawful men of said county, then and there duly returned, tried, impaneled, charged and sworn to inquire for the body of the county of Huron, do, upon their oaths in the name and by the authority of the State of Ohio, present and find that Negosheek, an Indian of the tribe *Ottawas*, Negoneby, an Indian of the said tribe, and Negosum, an Indian of the same tribe, at Lower Sandusky, in the said county of Huron, on the twenty-first day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, not having the fear of God before their eyes, but moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, with force and arms in and upon the body of John Wood, in the peace of God and the State of Ohio, then and there being feloniously, unlawfully, willfully, purposely and of deliberate and premeditated malice, did make an assault; and the said Negosheek, with a tomehawk in his right hand then and there held, of the value of one dollar, the said John Wood, in and upon the head of him the said Wood, behind the left

ear of him the said Wood, and also in and upon the left side of the head over the left shoulder of him the said Wood, then and there feloniously, unlawfully, willfully, purposely and of his deliberate and premeditated malice, did strike, cut and penetrate, then and there giving to him the said John Wood, with the tomehawk aforesaid, in and upon the head behind the left ear of him the said John Wood, and also in and upon the left side of the head and over the left shoulder of him the said John Wood, two mortal wounds, each of the breadth of three inches and of the depth of three inches, of which said mortal wounds the said John Wood then and there instantly died; and the said Negoneby and the said Negosum, at the time of the committing the said felony and murder by the said Negosheek in the manner and form aforesaid, unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, purposely and of their deliberate and premeditated malice, were present aiding, assisting, abetting, counselling, procuring, helping, comforting and maintaining the said Negosheek the felony and murder aforesaid in manner and form aforesaid to do, commit and perpetrate; and so the jurors aforesaid, upon their oaths aforesaid, do farther say that the said Negosheek and the said Negoneby and the said Negosum, him, the said John Wood, then and there, in manner and form aforesaid, feloniously, unlawfully, willfully, purposely and of their deliberate and premeditated malice, did kill and murder, contrary to the form of the statute, in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.

And the jurors aforesaid, at the term aforesaid, and on their oath aforesaid, in the name and by the authority aforesaid, do further present and find that the said Negosheek, the said Negoneby, and the said Negosum, at Lower Sandusky aforesaid, on the twenty-first day of April, aforesaid, not having the fear of God before their eyes, but moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, with force and arms in and upon the body of George Bishop, in the peace of God and of the State of Ohio, then and there being feloniously, unlawfully, willfully, purposely, and of their deliberate and premeditated malice, did make an assault, and that the said Negoneby, with a certain tomehawk, of the value of one dollar, in his, the said Negoneby's right hand, then and there hit the said George Bishop in and upon the head of him, the said George Bishop, and also in and upon the breast of him, the said George Bishop, then and there unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, purposely, and of his deliberate and premeditated malice, did strike, cut, and penetrate; giving to the said George Bishop, then and there with the tomehawk aforesaid, in and upon the head of the said George Bishop six mortal wounds, of the breadth of three inches, and the depth of three inches each, and also giving to him, the said George Bishop, then and there, with the tomehawk aforesaid, in and upon the breast of the said George Bishop two other mortal wounds, each of the breadth of three inches, and of the depth of six inches; of which mortal wounds the said George Bishop then and there instantly died. And that the said Negosheek, and the said Negosum, at the time of committing the last mentioned felony and murder aforesaid, by the said Negoneby, in manner and form aforesaid, unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, purposely and of their deliberate and premeditated malice, were present, aiding, abetting, counselling and procuring, helping, assisting, comforting and maintaining the said Negoneby the felony and murder last mentioned aforesaid, in manner and form aforesaid, to do, commit, and perpetrate; and so the jurors aforesaid, upon their oaths aforesaid, do further say that the said Negosheek, and the said Negoneby, and the said Negosum, him, the said George Bishop, then and there, in manner and form aforesaid, feloniously, unlawfully, willfully, purposely, and of their deliberate and premeditated malice, did kill and murder, contrary to the form of the statute, in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.

E. LANE, *Pres. Attorney.*

Upon the back of which indictment appears the following, to wit:

"A true bill Filed May term, 1819."

SILAS C. STRONG, *Foreman.*

The trial took place on Friday, May 21st. The court-room was crowded to its fullest capacity, and many who could not gain access were congregated in the front yard. David Abbott, of Avery (the old county seat), and Samuel Cowles, of Cleveland, appeared as attorneys for the Indians.

On being arraigned and the indictment read and interpreted to them, each plead "not guilty," and demanded separate trials.

Negoneba was first put upon trial, a jury called and he informed of his right of challenge, which he at once exercised by rejecting every red-headed man on the list. The jury finally selected and sworn were

Josiah Rumery, Ezra Abbott, William Watkins, Sylvester Pomerooy, William R. Beebe, Samuel Spencer, Moody Mears, Daniel Mack, Royal N. Powers, Daniel Warren, William Speers and Isaac Allen.

The witnesses for the State were Charles C. Tupper, the half-breed Chazee, Abiather Shirley, Barnabas Meeker, and some others called on minor matters.

The prosecutor made no opening argument. Cowles, for the defense, read some authorities and addressed the jury upon the evidence. Hitchcock, for the State, replied, and upon a charge from the court the jury retired, and soon returned with a verdict of murder in the first degree.

Negosheek was next put upon trial before the following jury: Anthony Beers, Samuel Cockrane, Beckwith Cook, Jacob Hawlin, John Barney, Samuel B. Carpenter, Gamaliel Townsend, Samuel B. Lewis, Joseph Strong, Jared Ward, Joseph Ozier and Levi Cole. The same witnesses appeared for the State as in the first case; and a like verdict was rendered.

Negossum, the boy, was then put upon trial, but the testimony was so clearly in his favor that the prosecutor declared he would not further prosecute the indictment against him, and the court ordered his discharge.

Negoneba and Negosheek were sentenced by the court to be remanded to the jail from whence they came, and there remain until the first day of July next, and from thence, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock in the forenoon of said day, be taken by the sheriff of the county to the place of execution, and then and there, by said sheriff, be hanged by the neck until they be dead.

They did not approve of the sentence of hanging, and asked that they might be shot, but when they fully realized that they should surely be hung, they tried experiments upon each other; one would lie down upon his back and the other would sit astride of him, and with both hands clasped around his neck, choke him until nearly gone, and then let go; when sufficiently recovered, he would slowly arise and sagely shake his head and exclaim, "ugh! no good, no good;" then they would change places, and the compliment be returned in kind, with the same result; it was still "No good, no good."

The day of execution was warm and sultry. At an early hour people began to gather from far and near, dressed in the rude costume of those days: with the men, "buckskin trousers" were common; and one young man, who in coming from Huron had got his (not doeskin cassimere) "breeches" thoroughly wet in passing a creek, found them stretching down to an inconvenient length; he cut off enough to make them right, they continued to stretch, he cut them off again and again; on arriving at Norwalk the hot sun began to dry them and they began to shrink, and kept on shrinking until the bottoms crawled up above his knees, and in that plight he became an object of almost as much attention as the two criminals.

Seven or eight Indians, Ottawas, were present at the execution, some of them being the ones who had assisted in their capture on both occasions.

The "gallos" (gallows) was erected on the sand ridge just south of Main street, on the lot and near the site of the residence of A. G. Post, Esq., next west of the Episcopal cemetery.

A rifle company formed one or two years before, of about one hundred men, under command of Captain Henry Burt, attended the execution as a guard, and to assist the civil authorities.

They marched to the jail, and the prisoners having been dressed in their shrouds, with ropes around their necks, were taken out by the sheriff and placed in a wagon, and, escorted by the guard, taken to the place of execution, when being asked if they had anything to say, Negosheek spoke a few words in broken English, but what he said cannot now be ascertained.

After life was extinct the bodies were placed in coffins, and buried at the place of execution. The civil officers and military company then marched to the house of Capt. Boalt, and were furnished a bountiful repast by him, after which a funeral discourse was preached by the Rev. William Hanford, a Presbyterian clergyman.

Before Negosheek was executed he confessed the murder of six other white men, previous to that of Wood and Bishop.

This was the first important criminal trial in Huron county, and the first execution in Norwalk. Since then there has been only one other execution for murder in Norwalk; that of Bennett Scop for the murder of a peddler named Jacob Goodman in Greenfield township, on the 9th day of October, A. D. 1869.

The cost of the capture and trial of the Indians was a heavy tax upon the new settlement, and the bills rendered are primitive curiosities. Some of them are here given in the original form and spelling:

VOUCHER No. 660.

HURON COUNTY TO JENNINGS, DARLING & Co., Dr.

Paid Sasa.....	\$12 00
Cabian.....	12 00
Paqahkemann.....	9 00
James.....	9 00
Undeno.....	9 00
Measseka.....	9 00
Ogenee.....	5 00
Thunder.....	4 50
	<hr/> \$70 50

Goods and provisions to Mr. Tupper for going after property:

1 deer skin.....	\$1 50
12 feet bed cord.....	19
28½ lb. bacon.....	5 25
¼ lb. young hyson tea.....	94
Paid Indians for going after property as per order of C. Tupper:	
1 black silk handk'f.....	1 25
½ yrd. calico.....	31
2 yrd. ribbon.....	41
3 yrd. plaid.....	1 50
1 bandana handk'f.....	1 00
	<hr/> \$5 96

JENNINGS, DARLING & Co.,

Allowed.

Per MOSES FARWELL.

VOUCHER No. 636.

May 22. Huron county to Charles C. Tupper, one dollar and sixty-two & $\frac{1}{2}$ cents. CHARLES C. TUPPER.

NOTE.—On the back of the voucher is the following.

Charles C. Tupper deter to Enos Gilbert, for liquor whilst on guard, thirteen shilling & sixpence. CHARLES C. TUPPER.

This claim was allowed by the commissioners, and entered on their journal as follows:

To C. Tupper, for services \$1 62 $\frac{1}{2}$

VOUCHER 645.

HURON COUNTY TO CHARLES C. TUPPER, DR.

My services 9 days in apprehending, securing and delivering the Indians on the first expedition \$36 00
Ditto, ditto, 11 days on the second expedition 56 00
Cash paid for expenses in pursuit of Indians 7 00
Ditto, to be paid to Anson Gray for 7 days services in apprehending and securing the Indians on first expedition 10 50
Ditto ditto, to Peter Mammie for 5 days service in apprehending and interpreting on first expedition 10 00
Ditto, ditto, Thos. Demas, 6 days services for ditto, on second expedition 10 25
Ditto, ditto, Wm. Austin, 6 days services for ditto, on second expedition 9 00
\$128 75

NOTE.—The following addition to the bill is in the hand-writing of E. Lane, then prosecuting attorney:

Two days attending as guard 2 00
Charles C. Tupper, attending the grand jury three days 1 50

E. LANE, *Pros. Att'y.* \$132 25

VOUCHER 634.

COUNTY OF HURON TO JOHN B. FLEMING, DR.

To eleven days service to pursue, retake and interpret for the Indian prisoners, @ \$4 per day \$44 00
Norwalk, 22d May, 1819. J. B. FLAMMOND.

"This is Flammond's own signature and shows the correct spelling; in all the records it is spelled wrong.

VOUCHER No. 35 (new numbering).

DR. THE HONORABLE THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF HURON TO JOHN B. FLAMMOND.

2 days services, 20th June and 1st July, as interpreter \$4 00

NOTE.—This bill was allowed by the commissioners, and entered in their journal as follows:

To John B. Fleming, for services hanging Indian \$4 00

VOUCHER No. 17 (new numbering).

SWAN CREEK, 11th May, 1819.

LIEUT. CHARLES C. TUPPER DR. TO MATTHEW MCKELVEY.

May 11. To 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. bacon, @ 2s 7 50 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 qt. whisky, @ 4s 50
12 To 1 qt. whisky, @ 3s 37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Money paid Mr. Printis, 8s 1 00
1 pt. whisky, 3s; to $\frac{1}{2}$ pt., 1s; to 1 qt., 3s 75
Whisky for your men, 4s 50
13 To 1 qt. whisky, 3s 75
Money paid Capt. Henderson, 9s 1 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 qt. whisky, 2s 37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Paid Joseph Printis, 8s 1 00
Rope to bind an Indian, 3s 37 $\frac{1}{2}$
14. To 2 qts. whisky 75
\$14 31 $\frac{1}{4}$

Lyman Farwell pay Matthew McKelvey the above amount, and oblige yours, &c. it being articles had on our campaign after the runaway Indians. CHARLES C. TUPPER.

NOTE.—The use of the "necessaries of life" on the campaign mentioned in the above bill, were in about the following proportion: One quart of whisky to four pounds of bacon. Hens, potatoes and lodging were either not necessary, or were thrown in as not of sufficient account to be charged for.

VOUCHER No. 18 (new numbering).

SWAN CREEK, 15th May, 1819.

MR. BOLT DR. TO MATTHEW MCKELVEY

To two gal. whisky \$3 00
To two hired hands, three days 6 00
To use of boat same time 1 00
\$10 00

MATTHEW MCKELVEY

VOUCHER 661.

COUNTY OF HURON, DR. TO H. BURT.

To charges in hunting Indians 24 75
Services in hunting 16 00
May 23d, 1819. HENRY BURT

VOUCHER 658.

COUNTY OF HURON, TO JOHN BOALT, DR.

To nine days services to Pursue Indian Prisoners, @ 4\$ 36 00
Norwalk, 22d May, 1819. \$27 00
JOHN BOALT.

VOUCHER 657.

COUNTY OF HURON, DR.

to nine days services on guard over the ignis a dollar a day and night. Norwalk, May the 22, 1819. D. G. RAITT.

VOUCHER 624.

GENTLEMEN COMMISSIONERS OF HURON COUNTY:—J. G. Thayer has served five days as a Guard during this term of Court.

LYMAN FARWELL, *Sheriff*

Norwalk, May 22, 1819.

\$5.00 allowed

VOUCHER 623

GENTLEMEN COMMISSIONERS OF HURON COUNTY:—Calvin Bates has served two days in Guarding Prisoners during this term of the Court.

May 21st, 1819. LYMAN FARWELL, *Sheriff*.

500 cts allowed by Commissioners.

VOUCHER 659

HURON COUNTY TO LYMAN FARWELL, DR.

To paying Guard at Portland 4 50
To transporting Prisoners 5 00
To cash paid Tupper 3 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ \$12 81
Norwalk, May 22, 1819

VOUCHER 641.

I, JOHN PUMPHRY, do hereby certify that John Hawk and myself, did, on the 15th of this instant, take up Negossheek, one of the Indian murders and on the 16th instant delivered said Indian to the Jailor of Huron County, for which we the said John Hawk and John Pumphry claim the Reward offered by the Sheriff of said county, it being one hundred and twenty-five dollars. Norwalk, May 29, 1819.

JOHN PUMPHRY.

Allowed on the above 25 dollars.

VOUCHER 626.

The sum of twenty-five dollars is allowed Peter Hitchcock for assisting in prosecuting the pleas of the State in the county of Huron, at the May term, 1819. By order of the Court. GEORGE TOD, *Pres't.*

VOUCHER 625.

COUNTY OF HURON TO SAMUEL COWLES, DR.

To assisting on the trial of Nangeshek, Negonebee and Negossum as Counsel for prisoners \$25 00
May term, 1819. The above amount is allowed by order of the Court
GEORGE TOD, *Pres't.*

VOUCHER No. 26 (new numbering).

Allowed to EZRA APOIT:

July the 1. 1819 DR. THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF HURON.

To building Gallos 14 00
to two Coffins -4 each 8 00
to making Srowd 1 00
to one shirt 1 00—\$21 00

VOUCHER 112.

HURON COUNTY DR. TO ALMAN LOOMIS.

Dr to Diging Grave for Indians \$1 00
July 1. 1819. Certified by me. LYMAN FARWELL, *Sheriff*.

VOUCHER 112 (new numbering).

May 4th 1819.

COUNTY OF HURON, DR.

To boarding 3 Indians six days 18 days.
They then escaped.

Afterwards Negasser 11 days.
Negunneba 7 days.
Negassum 4 days.
Roalin 8 days.
Downing 6 days.

To the end of May Court 51 days. = 7 weeks 3 days.

Boards two weeks 2 weeks.

Two Indians new weeks four days 11 weeks 1 day.

at two dollars p week.

29 weeks 3 days.

Two Guards six days.....	12 days.	
Two " four days.....	8 days.	
Four " seven days.....	28 days.	
Five " two days.....	10 days.	
	58 days. — 8 weeks 2 days.	
Three " five weeks three days.....	16 " 2 "	
	24 weeks 4 days.	
Three oil shirts.....	1.50	24½ weeks at 2.50 per week
10½ lb. candles at 25. 6d.....	3.28	
Meal for extra Guards.....	5.00	\$ 61 38
14 meals for seven Indians.....	3.50	Criminal..... 41 57½
Whisky to dress the wounds		17 53
of the Indians and extra		
Guards 4½ Gallons.....	4.25	120 78½
Ending July 1st 1819.	517.53	
\$120.78.		for LYMAN FARWELL, Sheriff,
		ENOS GILBERT.

NOTE.—For much of the information contained in the foregoing account of facts, scenes and incidents attending the murder, capture, trial and conviction, the writer is largely indebted to an article published in the *Fire-lands Pioneer* of June, 1865, page 13. Also, to official records and files, and to his own memory of conversation between "Doc. Raitt" and the late Hallett Gallup, in his hearing when a boy.

REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

In September of 1815, Platt Benedict, then of Danbury, Connecticut, came west to prospect for a new home. He stopped to see his cousin, Eli Boughton, then living at Canfield, Trumbull county, Ohio, and was there introduced to Elisha Whittlesey. Mr. Whittlesey was about starting for Huron county with Judge Todd, to attend the first court soon to be held at the "old county seat." Mr. Benedict joined their company and came on with them.

The first court was held at the house of David Abbott, and there was a very general dissatisfaction expressed at the location, and the propriety of selecting another site was freely discussed. Some person (whose name cannot now be ascertained) suggested that there was a fine sand ridge in Norwalk township that would make a good location.

Major Frederick Folly, of Margaretta township, was one of the parties present at that court; and after the adjournment, he, Mr. Whittlesey and Mr. Benedict, started to examine the "sand ridge" with the intention of ascertaining its desirability as a site for the future seat of justice, and no doubt with some speculative design in view. On arriving at the place of Abijah Comstock, they invited him to accompany them and act as guide. After "prospecting" the site of the future city which loomed up in their "minds' eye," and finding good water (which the opponents of a change of county seat asserted "could not be had in that barren sand ridge"), they turned their steps towards Cleveland, and soon after arriving there, drew up and signed an agreement, the original of which is now in possession of the writer, and is as follows:

THIS AGREEMENT, made this the 30th day of October, 1815, by and between Frederick Folly, Platt Benedict and Elisha Whittlesey, witnesses that they have, and by these presents do covenant, and agree to and with each other, to purchase so much of the fourth section, in the town of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, as is for sale, belonging to Eli Starr, Ithamer Canfield and Betsey Canfield, Wm. Taylor and Abigail Taylor, John Dodd and the heirs of Ephraim W. Bull; and if the whole of their rights in said section cannot be purchased, then they agree to purchase so much of each of the above proprietors as can be procured, and to pay therefor at such price, and on such terms of

payment as shall be agreed on by the person making such purchase, in the following proportions, to wit: The said Frederick Folly one-fourth of the purchase money, the said Platt Benedict, one-fourth, and the said Elisha Whittlesey, one-half of the purchase money. It is, however, mutually agreed that if Mathew B. Whittlesey and Moss White, or either of them, if both do not consent and agree to become partners in the purchase, may one or either of them be permitted to take one-fourth of the purchase, which is to be deducted from the proportion agreed above to be taken by the said E. Whittlesey, on their agreeing if both consent, or on either of them agreeing if only one consents, to become part proprietors in the purchase, to be bound by the covenants which bind each of the above contracting parties, which shall be evidenced by expressing the intention in signing these covenants, with appropriate and fit words to bind him or them to each of the above contracting parties, in which case each of us hereby agree to become bound to him or them, as we shall be to each other in these covenants. We further covenant and agree to and with each other, that on effecting the purchase aforesaid, or a part thereof, in case the same shall include a suitable site for a town, to lay out a plat of ground suitable in extent to the object in view; and in case the seat of justice is removed from where it is now established in the county of Huron, on to the lands which may be purchased in said section as above; or if the legislature should appoint a committee to view for a suitable place to which to remove the seat of justice to, that such part and proportion of said plat shall and may be offered for the use and benefit of the county, for the erection of public buildings as shall hereafter be agreed on by a majority of the proprietors voting by the interest each one may have, the least share counting one vote, and to increase in proportion to the quantum of interest, in case that quantum shall double to the least share, and so on in the same ratio.

It is further covenanted and agreed, to dispose of right to the plat to the best advantage, either at public or private sale, or so much thereof as may be thought advisable, to be agreed on in the same manner as is above covenanted in case any difference of opinion should exist. We further covenant and agree to lay off the residue of the land into suitable outlots and farms, and dispose of the same to the best advantage for those concerned; and whereas some one or more of the contracting parties may wish to reside on some parts of said land, it is further agreed that a preference shall be given to such in the selection of suitable quantity of land, or such lots as he or they may choose, paying therefor such price as the same lots would sell for in market; and whereas it is doubtful in whose name a deed or contract may be given, it is further covenanted and agreed that the person in whose name the contract is executed, or to whom the deeds may be given, shall, prior to disposing of any of said lands, bind himself in suitable bonds, payable to the other proprietors, for the faithful accounting for all moneys received, and paying over the same to the other proprietors in the proportion they may own whenever thereunto required. Each of the contracting parties binds himself to the other, and each of them to bear the proportionable part of the expense that may be incurred in procuring an article or a title for the above lands, or so much thereof as can be purchased. The intention of the contracting parties being to erect and build a town on some part of the above lands, if purchased, it is agreed that each one is to render all the assistance in his power to procure settlers and promote the settlement. It is further agreed, that no one of the contracting parties shall sell out his interest in said purchase to any person, without the consent and approbation of the other proprietors.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, and to triplicates hereof, which are delivered to each of the contracting parties the day and year above written, viz: October 30th, 1815.

FREDERICK FOLLY,	[L. S.]
PLATT BENEDICT,	[L. S.]
E. WHITTLESEY,	[L. S.]

Upon the execution of the foregoing contract it was arranged that Mr. Benedict should return to Connecticut and effect the purchases contemplated, upon the best terms attainable; and he at once started, taking the following letter, addressed by Elisha Whittlesey to his brother, Mathew B. Whittlesey, of Danbury, Connecticut, explaining the foregoing contract, and soliciting his co-operation:

CLEVELAND, October 31, 1815.

DEAR BROTHER: You will perceive by contract in the possession of Mr. Benedict, that he, Major Folly, and myself, design purchasing a tract of land lying in the fourth section of the town of Norwalk. By this map you will be able to see the situation of the land among the several owners. Mr. Benedict will inform you of the prospect of moving the seat of justice. The tract of land is a valuable one and can soon be disposed of, even if we should fail in the object we have in view.

The site on this tract, owned by Starr and Canfield, is as handsome as any one I ever saw. Mr. Benedict will descend into particulars, as also

of the land adjoining. We should be happy of having you join, and Col. Moss White, if consistent, otherwise the parts reserved will be disposed of here. We wish your assistance in making this purchase, and leave it for you, Mr. Benedict and Mr. White to devise the most eligible plan. If the deed is taken in the names of a part of the proprietors, it is expected that suitable covenants will be entered into to secure the others in the participation of the profits of the contracts. It will become necessary that those who reside here have the disposal of the lots, and be able to give titles, or otherwise you will perceive the business would be much procrastinated and embarrassed. The price of land in the unsettled towns adjoining is from one dollar to two dollars and two dollars and fifty cents per acre. We have not proscribed Mr. Benedict as to the price, but wish the purchase on the most favorable terms. If contract cannot be made with Starr and Canfield we propose to purchase so much as they will sell, provided they come in and are bound with the rest of us, for the building the town. But we do not wish to have any thing to do with it, unless the business is so arranged that lands can be disposed of with a certainty of having the title, when requested, made to the purchaser. Major Fally is a man of respectability, business and honor, and well calculated to be engaged in business of this kind. You will perceive that much confidence must be reposed in each other until such time as the title is procured and duplicate covenants signed for the security of each proprietor. Unless Starr and Canfield sell, they need not flatter themselves of the seat of justice, for there are other places which will be favored.

Since writing the above Mr. Benedict and Fally wish the title to be vested ultimately in me. Of that do as you shall judge best. Mr. Benedict will inform you of the health of my family, &c. In haste,
Yours affectionately, E. WHITTLESEY.

The following memoranda appear on the back of this letter, in the handwriting of Platt Benedict, showing his disbursements while on the trip to make the purchase contemplated by the contract:

EXPENSES BY PLATT BENEDICT.

Nov. 19. 2 days to New Milford, and expense for horse, &c.	\$3 50
Jan. 26. 1 day to New Milford and expense.....	2 50
March 27. To 1 day and expenses to New Milford.....	2 50
To postage of 3 letters	1 12½
April 3. Cash paid Col. Taylor.....	10 00
do. do. do.	10 00
Postage on letter.....	25
	\$29 87½
Moss White paid do	15 00
M. B. Whittlesey do.	10 00
Moss White paid 19th July.....	25 00
	50 00
P. Benedict paid do.....	15 00
3 days going to New Milford to complete the business, &c., expenses with Mrs. Bull.....	7 50
	\$52 87½
Amount of expense and cash paid by P. Benedict as above,	29 87½
Cash paid by E. Benedict	15 00
do for expense	7 50
	\$52 87½

April 3, 1816.—Contracted with Wm. Taylor for 562 acres in Norwalk, Ohio, for \$1,210. Paid him \$50. Platt Benedict, Matthew B. Whittlesey, Moss White notes as follows: one note on demand to Eli Mygatt, for \$400—one to Col. Taylor, sixty days, \$250—one for \$400, one year from date—one for \$400, two years from date.

15th Nov., 1815.—P. Benedict note on demand for \$400—one note for \$400 payable one year from date—one for \$400 payable 2 years from date—and one of \$400 payable 3 years from date.

Matthew B. Whittlesey and Moss White, July 9th.—Paid on the note on demand \$40—\$25 paid by M. White and \$15 by P. Benedict.

Mr. Benedict, having left Cleveland on or about October 31, on horseback, reached Danbury in eleven days, making an average daily ride of over fifty miles, and, on the 15th of November, went to New Milford, sixteen miles distant, and commenced negotiations with Colonel William Taylor, who, "in right of his wife," held part of the desired land. After several such trips, he at length, on April 3, 1816, concluded a contract with him for five hundred and sixty-two acres, for the sum of one thousand two hundred and ten dollars. This purchase covered the land upon

which all of the original town plat of Norwalk east of Hester street was afterwards laid out. Eight hundred and twelve acres were also purchased of Mrs. Polley Bull for two dollars per acre. This land lies east of the Taylor tract, and all of the east part of the present village south of the section line is built upon it. The Taylor tract was part of the claim of fire sufferer, Ezra Starr; and the Polley Bull tract was part of claim of fire sufferer, John McLean.

In accordance with the suggestion of Mr. Whittlesey, in his letter to his brother above given, Matthew B. Whittlesey and E. Moss White entered into the enterprise and joined with Mr. Benedict in giving notes for the purchase price of the lands, as fully appears by many papers in the writer's possession.

On April 8, 1816, Colonel Wm. Taylor executed a deed of the five hundred and sixty-two acre tract to Elisha Whittlesey; and, on June 8, 1816, Mrs. Bull executed a deed of the eight hundred and twelve acre tract to the same party. The reason of these deeds being executed to Mr. Whittlesey is fully explained in his foregoing letter. On the execution of the deeds they were at once sent on to Mr. Whittlesey, and he soon after came on, and, after consulting Major Underhill, employed Almond Ruggles as a surveyor to run out a portion of the land into village lots and plat the same. On October 16, 1816, the survey and plat having been completed, Mr. Whittlesey signed and acknowledged the plat before Jabez Wright, associate judge, and the same day it was received for record and recorded in volume one of records of deeds on page seventeen, by Ichabod Marshall, recorder. The instrument recorded with the plat contains the following dedication: "Lot thirteen is given for a site to build a court house, lot twelve a meeting house, lot one for an academy or college, and lot twenty-four for a goal"—evidently meaning goal, or jail. The court house and jail now stand on lot thirteen, the Methodist Church on lot twelve, Whittlesey Academy on lot one, and the Parker Block on lot twenty-four.

From the fact that the gift of these lots appears upon the records in the name of Elisha Whittlesey alone, the impression long since sprang up in this community that to him only belonged the credit of the grant. The foregoing contract and Mr. Whittlesey's letter to his brother with the other facts stated in this history, fully disprove the correctness of that impression. Mr. Whittlesey, in executing that dedication, and having it recorded, acted *in fact* as a trustee for himself, M. B. Whittlesey, E. M. White and Platt Benedict, and they deserve the credit jointly with him.

Frederick Fally, living in Margaretta township, never fulfilled his part of the contract by advancing any part of the purchase money, nor of the expenses, and was quietly dropped out.

On September 9, 1817, Mr. Benedict arrived in Norwalk township with his family, and finding his house, which he had put up in the spring of 1817, burned to the ground, at once erected another one on

the same site, and on November 4, 1817, commenced work clearing, as appears by the following entries selected from his account book, now in possession of the writer:

1817.—Nov. 4. To 4 days and team clearing out road on ridge... \$5.00
1818.—May 6. To 1 gall. whisky for hands clearing ground..... 1.50
" To 4 days clearing ground for county seat..... 4.00

Then some change seems to have been decided upon in the arrangement and plan of the plat; as a result, *four* of the *eight* two rod alleys, between the present Benedict avenue and Medina street, were vacated, and the arrangement of lots changed to correspond, *and as thus changed, it now remains*; but no record was ever made of that change, and as the old plat recorded in 1816 is the only one upon the county records, title searchers are puzzled; at this day, to account for the wide variance between the recorded and the actual plat.

The writer has found among the papers of Platt Benedict, an ancient, much worn map of the present actual plat, but there is no endorsement upon it showing by whom, or when it was made. A fair copy of it is now in possession of E. S. Boughton, present recorder of deeds.

The following entries, also taken from the account book of Mr. Benedict, give a little more light upon this change:

1818.—June 15. To 1 day surveying and laying out town plot..... \$1.25
" To boarding surveyor and hand 1 day each..... 75

This strange omission in not having the changed plat recorded, might, long years ago, have been seized upon as a pretext for vexatious litigation, but the statutes of repose have long since thrown their protecting mantle over it.

In the year 1817, schemes were devised, and plans perfected for accomplishing the second step in this campaign for the capture of the county seat. Petitions were circulated, and the result shows they must have been quite generally signed.

In the mean time, a number of men of energy and public spirit had come in, and settled upon the new town plat, and by the spring of 1818, it began to assume the dignity of a village. A subscription paper was circulated to raise funds for the erection of county buildings, and several hundred dollars were raised. Almond Ruggles was employed to go to Columbus in January, 1818, with the petitions for removing the county seat, and "lobby" a bill through the legislature: this he did successfully, and was paid for that service as appears by the following receipt, the original of which is now in possession of Miner Cole, Esq.:

Received of Peter Tice and Platt Benedict, one hundred dollars for services rendered in going to Columbus, for the purpose of settling the question as to the removal of the seat of justice to Norwalk, at the request of those interested.

ALMOND RUGGLES.

The bill passed by the legislature, appointed a commission of three persons "to view the present and *such other sites* for seats of justice, as might be shown to them in the county of Huron," and also charged the commission with the duty of appraising

the damage which those who had purchased property at the old county seat would suffer by the removal of it.

At the time appointed for a meeting of the commissioners, only two were present. The following places were applicants for the location, viz.: Abbott's place in Eldridge (Berlin); Milan, Abijah Comstock's place on section two of this town; Gibbs and Lockwood's Corners (now Alling's Corners), Norwalk village, Monroeville, Widow Parker's (on the west side of Huron river opposite Milan), and Sandusky City. The commission proceeded to view all the proposed sites, selected Norwalk, and appraised the damages of the several property owners at the old site at a total of three thousand four hundred and forty dollars.

Most of the foregoing facts will more fully appear by reference to the following bond which explains itself, and which was, no doubt, *an important factor* in determining the action of the commission:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, Elisha Whittlesey and Platt Benedict, as principals, and David Underhill, Levi Cole, Peter Tice and Daniel Tilden, as sureties, are firmly bound and obligated to Abijah Comstock, treasurer of the county of Huron, and his successors in said office, and to Ebenezer Merry, Ephraim Quimby, Frederick W. Fowler, Lyman Fay, Ichabod Marshall, Richmond Rhodes, Othniel Fields and Joseph Cairns, in the penal sum of eight thousand dollars, to the payment of which sum we hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, and executors, firmly by these presents, signed with our hands, and sealed with our seals, this, the eighth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen. In presence of,

The condition of this bond is such that, whereas the Legislature of the State of Ohio, on the twenty-sixth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, passed a law appointing Abraham Tappan, William Wetmore, and Elias Lee, commissioners to view the present and such other sites for seats of justice as might be shown to them in the county of Huron, and to take into consideration the necessity and propriety of removing said seat of justice for said county; and whereas, the said commissioners, by said act, are to appraise the damage that each person might sustain who had purchased in the present seat of justice in and for said county; and, whereas, the said Abraham Tappan, and William Wetmore, two of said committee, have attended to the duties of their appointment, and have assessed to the said Ebenezer Merry, and Ephraim Quimby, damage to the amount of two thousand, two hundred dollars; to Lyman Fay, damage to the amount of one hundred and fifty dollars; Frederick W. Fowler, damage to the amount of six hundred and eighty dollars; Richmond Rhodes, damage to the amount of sixty dollars; Ichabod Marshall, damage to the amount of one hundred and fifty dollars; to Othniel Fields, damage to the amount of one hundred dollars; to Joseph Cairns, damage to the amount of one hundred dollars.

And, whereas, also by said act, the damage so assessed, is to be paid to the several sufferers within two years; and, whereas, also the donations heretofore subscribed for public buildings, or a sum equal thereto are to be paid within one year. Now, therefore, the condition of this bond is such that if the said commissioners shall fix the seat of justice on the town plat of Norwalk, and the said obligors do not pay to the said treasurer, or his said successor in said office, for the use of the county, a sum equal to the present amount of donations for public buildings, within one year from this date, or if the said obligors do not pay the said Ebenezer Merry, and Ephraim Quimby, the said sum of two thousand two hundred dollars; to the said Lyman Fay, the said sum of one hundred and fifty dollars; to the said Frederick W. Fowler, the said sum of six hundred and eighty dollars; to the said Richmond Rhodes, the said sum of sixty dollars; to the said Ichabod Marshall, the said sum of one hundred and fifty dollars; to the said Othniel Fields, the said sum of one hundred dollars; to the said Joseph Cairns, the said sum of one hundred dollars, within two years from this date, then this bond to be and remain in full force and effect; but if the several sums of money above mentioned be paid as above stipulated, then this bond to be null and void.

ELISHA WHITTLESEY. [L.S.]
PLATT BENEDICT. [L.S.]
DAVID UNDERHILL. [L.S.]
LEVI COLE. [L.S.]
DANIEL TILDEN. [L.S.]
PETER TICE. [L.S.]

Witness:

DAVID ABBOTT,
BENJ. W. ABBOTT.

NOTE.—Copied from Journal of Common Pleas Court of May term, 1818.

The location having been settled, Mr. Whittlesey proposed to deed the entire town plat, except lots number one, twelve, thirteen and twenty-four, to certain individuals if they would relieve him from his liability on the foregoing bond. His proposition was accepted, and on May 30, 1818, they executed to him the following bond of indemnity:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, David Underhill, Peter Tice, Levi Cole, Platt Benedict and Daniel Tilden, of Huron county, are held and stand firmly bound unto Elisha Whittlesey in the penal sum of eight thousand dollars, to the payment of which we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, firmly by these presents. Signed with our hands and sealed with our seals this, the thirtieth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

The condition of this bond is such that whereas the said Elisha Whittlesey, heretofore at our request, became bound as principal in a certain bond executed by him to Abijah Comstock, treasurer of the county of Huron aforesaid and his successors in said office, in the penal sum of eight thousand dollars, conditioned for the payment of three thousand four hundred and forty dollars, or thereabouts, to certain individuals therein named, being the damages assessed to be paid to them by the appraisal of Abraham Tappan and William Wetmore, commissioners appointed to remove the seat of justice in Huron county; and, also, having this further condition that the donation should be kept good for the benefit of the county aforesaid, reference being had to said bond returned to the clerk of the court of common pleas, and by him entered on the journal of said court.

Now, therefore, if the said David Underhill, Peter Tice, Levi Cole, Platt Benedict and Daniel Tilden, shall exonerate and save harmless the said Elisha Whittlesey from all suits, legal liabilities and costs of, in and concerning said bond, by performing the conditions therein contained, as they severally become due, then this bond to be void and of no effect, otherwise to be and remain in full force and effect.

Signed and sealed the day and year above,

In presence of	DAVID UNDERHILL,	[L.S.]
NATHAN STRONG,	PETER TICE,	[L.S.]
C S HALE,	LEVI COLE,	[L.S.]
	PLATT BENEDICT,	[L.S.]
	DANIEL TILDEN,	[L.S.]

NOTE.—Copied from the original, now in possession of Miner Cole, Esq.

The foregoing bond having been executed May 30, 1818, on June 8, 1818, Mr. Whittlesey executed, in favor of the parties who signed said bond, a deed of lots from one to forty-eight, being the whole of Norwalk town plat, except public lots one, twelve, thirteen and twenty-four, which is recorded in volume II, of Huron county record of deeds, at page 445.

These parties afterwards fulfilled their obligations assumed in the two bonds, and in 1820 partitioned the lots among themselves by a joint deed, which is recorded in volume II, of Huron county record of deeds, at page 884.

At a meeting of the county commissioners on October 21, 1818, the following resolution was passed:

Ordered, By the commissioners, that notice be given that the commissioners will, on the first Monday of December next, receive proposals for the building of a court-house, forty by thirty feet, and a jail.

Previous to that, however, and upon the consummation of the bargain between Mr. Whittlesey and the five who had executed the foregoing bond, the latter had commenced the erection of a court house, under a contract with William Gallup as builder, and had it so far completed that on the third Tuesday of October, 1818, the first term of the court at the "new county seat" was held in it.

On Monday, December 7, 1818, the commissioners caused the following entry to be made in their journal:

"Commissioners purchased a building of David

Underhill & Co., for a court house, for the sum of eight hundred and forty-eight dollars, which is to apply on their donations given at the sand ridge, except four hundred and fifty dollars, which is to be allowed to William Gallup."

The original subscription papers for the county-seat fund cannot now be found, and it is therefore impossible to determine whether the three hundred and ninety-eight dollars, above applied "on their donations given at the sand ridge," was the amount, or part of the amount, of the individual subscriptions of the five, composing "David Underhill & Co." but as the subscriptions were made *for the benefit of the county*, it is most probable that the papers were in the hands of the county officers for collection, and that by the above application they collected the whole or a part of the individual donations of Underhill, Tice, Cole, Benedict and Tilden, and paid Gallup his four hundred and fifty dollars, balance due on building, in county orders (which another part of their journal shows), trusting to further collections to meet the orders.

At a meeting of the commissioners, held March 2, 1819, they caused the following entry to be made in their journal:

"Contracted with Platt Benedict to build a jail, twenty-four by forty-six, two stories, for the sum of twelve hundred and seventy-five dollars."

This contract was sub-let to Hallet Gallup, and on August 8, 1819, the commissioners caused the following entry to be made in their journal:

"Commissioners agreed to accept the jail from Hallet Gallup, and have deducted twenty dollars from the contract, for work which remains unfinished, and have paid the balance, with this proviso: the said Gallup claims that he has done some extra work, which the contract and custom does not require, which question the said Gallup and the commissioners have agreed to submit to some disinterested judges, and abide their decree. Said decision to be submitted to S. Benton, Timothy Baker and Frederick Forsyth."

The contract price of this jail was paid in county orders, the commissioners probably relying upon the collection of donation subscriptions to meet them.

The old court house was removed many years ago, to give place to the present brick structure, and now stands in all its original "beauty" on Whittlesey avenue, and is the present "Central Hotel."

The old jail was removed in 1832, to give place to the present Parker Block, and now stands on Rule street, north side, between Huron and Wooster streets, as a dwelling house. It, however, had not been used as a jail since about 1837.

FIRST POST OFFICE.

Up to August, 1816, the new settlers received and sent their mail from the post office at Huron. This was so inconvenient that Maj. Underhill, meeting Judge Ruggles one day, represented to him the difficulty and annoyance of carrying on correspondence

with the east. Ruggles replied: "Find a postmaster, and I will write to the department and have the appointment made." Dr. Joseph Pearce was selected, Ruggles fulfilled his promise, and the appointment was, in due time, made, and received as a ray of light penetrating into an oppressive darkness. The following extract from a letter written by Harriet Underhill, to her sister, Mrs. Horace Morse, in Herkimer, New York, refers to this appointment. The letter is dated "Ridgefield, August 6, 1816."

After referring to family matters, the writer says: "Ma wishes you to write and let us know when you are coming out here. Perhaps you think of taking us by surprise, but do not think of that, for we shall hear all the news that is stirring, for this day a post office has been established here, and Dr. Pearce is postmaster. Please direct your letters to Norwalk Post Office."

This office was kept at the house of Levi Cole (Benjamin Newcomb's second house), on the present Miner Cole farm, until, in July, 1818, when Mr. Pearce resigned and his resignation was accepted.

The total business done by the office, while held by Dr. Pearce, is shown by the following statement of account made out at Washington, at that time, and found among the papers of Platt Benedict, now in possession of the writer:

JOSEPH PEARCE, Esq., late Postmaster, Norwalk, Ohio, in account with the General Post office.

Dr.		Cr.	
To bal, due on his post office ac't.			
From		1817	
August 22 to October 1, 1816,	1.65	January 29, By Cash,	\$ 5.00
October 1 to Dec. 31, "	8.73	1818	
January 1 to April 1, 1817,	8.92	May 14, By Cash,	1.00
April 1 to July 1, "	13.98	1819	
July 1 to October 1, "	11.61	January 1, By Draft in favor	
October 1 to Dec. 31, "	11.09	David Abbott	72.90
January 1 to April 1, 1818,	96		
April 1 to July 1, "	20.21		
Balance	5.85		
	\$78.00		\$73.90

FIRST VILLAGE POST OFFICE.

Dr. Pearce having tendered his resignation, the following letter was sent to him from the department, the original of which is now in the writer's possession:

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
CITY OF WASHINGTON, 25 July, 1818.

SIR:

Your letter resigning the office of postmaster at Norwalk, Ohio, has been received, and accepted. It has been concluded to appoint Mr. Platt Benedict to fill the vacancy: a bond for his signature is enclosed and you will oblige me by seeing it done with proper solemnity, and then return it, with a certificate that he has taken the requisite oaths, to this office. When those papers are received here, a commission will be made out and forwarded to him, and you will then, or as soon as the bond is forwarded, if more convenient, hand over to him all the articles of post office property in your possession, the moneys due to this office excepted.

Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH PEARCE, Esq.

R. J. MEIGS, JR.

At that time, Platt Benedict was living in a log house, which stood on the lot, and in the rear of where the present Gallup block now stands. That log house was built in September, 1817, upon the site of one built by Mr. Benedict in the spring 1817.—

but burned down early in September of that year,—these two being the first houses erected within the present corporate limits of Norwalk.

The office was at once removed by Mr. Benedict to his residence, and the first post office in the village was there opened and kept until 1819; and the first mail brought only one letter and one newspaper. In that year Mr. Benedict erected and moved into his "splendid new brick house," (the first brick structure erected within the present limits of Huron county), now forming part of the present Gallup block, in the rear. In the little room (back of store room number fourteen, East Main street, now used as a fitting room by S. C. Kinsley, fancy goods merchant,) the post office was opened up "in state," and there kept, until Picket Latimer and Harvey G. Morse, some years afterwards, opened a general store, in a building standing about where Harley's grocery now is, (store room number nine, West Main street), when it was removed to that location, and put in charge of Jonas B. Benedict, (son of Platt Benedict, and father of Dr. D. D. Benedict), as deputy. There it was kept at the west front seven by nine glass window, until in 1827, when Latimer & Co. moved to the "Old Red Store," standing where the Norwalk National Bank now is, (Baker & Kimball succeeding Latimer & Co. in the old stand). The post office went with Latimer & Co., and remained there, in charge of D. A. Baker, (present president of the First National Bank), as deputy, until the early part of 1828. Asahel W. Howe, that year, leased of Horace Howard the tavern stand that is now the wooden building standing next west of Whittlesey block, so long known as the Mansion house, the sign of which is yet indistinctly visible on the east end of the old brick block next west.

On January 10, 1828, Howe was sworn in as deputy, and the office was moved there. He proved to be unworthy of the trust; robbed the mails, was arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced to imprisonment for a term of years, and pardoned out in about one year.

Daniel A. Baker was sworn in as deputy, on March 29, 1827, before Samuel Preston, justice of the peace, as appear by the official oath of office, now in possession of the writer.

The first official draft by the department upon the Norwalk post office, was drawn against Joseph Pearce, January 1, 1819.

The second was drawn against Platt Benedict, and is as follows:

"Dols. 56.—Cents. No 2

GENERAL POSTOFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, April 1, 1819

SIR—At sight, pay David Abbott, or order, fifty-six dollars — cents and charge to account of this office.

ABM. BRADLEY, JR.,

Assistant Postmaster General."

TO PLATT BENEDICT, Esquire,

Postmaster at Norwalk, Ohio.

The official list of newspapers, pamphlets, and magazines received at this office from October 1, 1828, to January 1, 1829, shows that seventy-three copies

were received, upon which the postage was twelve dollars and twenty-four cents.

An official statement of account made out at Washington, in 1829, shows the total business of the office from July 1, 1818, to September 1, 1829, (a period of eleven years and two months, during which the office was held by Platt Benedict), as having amounted to one thousand four hundred and thirty-five dollars and fifty-seven cents, or an average of one hundred and thirty dollars and fifty cents per year, the last year, however, from July 1, 1828, to July 1, 1829, it was one hundred and ninety-seven dollars and thirteen cents.

The present postmaster, Frederick C. Wickham, grandson of Samuel Preston, who administered the oath of office to D. A. Baker, in 1827, has kindly furnished the writer with the following statement of the business of the office, for the year ending March 31, 1879:

AMOUNT OF STAMPS, STAMPED ENVELOPES, NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS, AND POSTAL CARDS SOLD.

For the quarter ending June 30, 1878.....	\$ 1,907 51
" " " " September 30, 1878.....	1,492 84
" " " " December 31, 1878.....	1,815 77
" " " " March 31, 1879.....	1,733 86
Total for one year.....	\$ 6,769 98

AMOUNT COLLECTED FOR BOX RENT.

For the quarter ending June 30, 1878.....	\$ 226 25
" " " " September 30, 1878.....	226 00
" " " " December 31, 1878.....	226 45
" " " " March 31, 1879.....	229 00
Total for one year.....	\$ 907 50

RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES.

For the quarter ending June 30, 1878.....	\$ 3 26
" " " " September 30, 1878.....	2 56
" " " " December 31, 1878.....	3 40
" " " " March 31, 1879.....	5 11
Total for one year.....	\$ 14 63

Grand total for year..... \$7,632 61

MONEY ORDERS ISSUED.

Number of money orders issued during the year ending March 31, 1879.....	3,571
Amount issued for the year.....	\$41,640 05
Amount of fees received for same.....	480 55
Number of orders paid during the year.....	3,103
Amount of orders paid during the year.....	\$41,168 97

Perhaps no single department of business in the town affords a better criterion by which to measure its growth and improvement.

In 1818-19 the office was a log dwelling house with one room,—parlor, sitting-room, bed-room, kitchen and post office in one; its windows were set with greased paper instead of glass; it was warmed from a huge stone-built fire-place, by burning logs, so large that a man could only put them in place by the "end over end" process: there was only *one* mail per week. The total receipts of the office from July 1, 1818 to July 1, 1819, were \$112.68, and postage was then twenty-five cents for each half-ounce letter.

The total population of the the whole township was probably about two hundred, which would make the average contribution of each inhabitant, to the receipts of the office, about fifty-six cents per year, or equal to about two and one-quarter letters sent by

each inhabitant during the year; equal to about eighteen and two-thirds letters at the present three-cent rate of postage.

Sixty years have rolled by since then, and our fathers and mothers, who were then the actors upon the stage of life, are now sleeping in their quiet, silent graves; a new and busy generation of men and women, mostly strangers to them, fill, according to their ability, the vacant places.

And to-day, that post office is housed in a commodious room, upon the same premises where it was first opened, nearly sixty-one years ago; its windows are of plate glass, each light of which is five and a half by ten and a half feet square, and it is fitted up with most of the modern appliances for facilitating business, and ten or twelve mails per day, arrive and depart.

The receipts of the office, aside from the money order department, from March 1, 1878, to March 31, 1879, having been \$7,632.61, and estimating the present population of the township at nine thousand, would average a contribution, by each inhabitant, to those receipts, of about eighty-five cents, or at three cents per half-ounce letter, would equal the annual sending of nearly sixty-five letters by each inhabitant now, as against the two and one-quarter letters sent in 1818-19.

As a conclusion, based upon the foregoing figures, while the population has increased in those sixty years, only about forty-times, the annual receipts of the post office have increased nearly sixty-eight times, notwithstanding the fact that the rate of postage has been reduced from twenty-five, to three cents per half-ounce, or over eight times: taking that fact into consideration, the business of the office has increased about five hundred and forty-four times.

The names and date of commission of each person who has held the office, from its establishment to the present time, have been furnished the writer by the Department at Washington, and are as follows:

Joseph Pearce.....	commissioned October 1, 1816
Platt Benedict.....	" October 23, 1818
Cyrus Butler.....	" July 29, 1829
John Buckingham.....	" September 21, 1850
Obadiah Jenney.....	" May 30, 1841
Daniel Mallery.....	" May 1 1849
A. S. Sutton.....	" July 2, 1853
Amos Parks.....	" April 30, 1857
John V. Vredenburg.....	" December 15, 1858
Julius S. Coe.....	" December 30, 1858
Hiram Rose.....	" October 21, 1871
Frederick C. Wickham.....	" December 15, 1875

FIRST MERCHANTS.

TICE & FORSYTH (Peter Tice and Frederick Forsyth), commenced business in 1818, in the "Red Store," on the corner of Main and Hester streets, where the Norwalk national bank now stands: discontinued business about 1821.

CYRUS BUTLER commenced business as successor of Tice & Forsythe, in the "Red Store." David M. Benedict, clerk. In 1825 built the brick store now

occupied by C. H. Wines & Co., grocers, on the Latimer property. Removed to Birmingham in 1827.

FREDERICK FORSYTH commenced business, about 1821, in a building which stood where Harley's grocery store, number nine, West Main street now is, and discontinued about 1823.

MORSE & LATIMER (Harvey G. Morse and Picket Latimer,) commenced business about 1823, in the store vacated by Forsythe, and continued there until they removed to the "Red Store," to give place to Baker & Kimball, in 1827.

BAKER & KIMBALL (Timothy Baker and Moses Kimball,) commenced business about 1825, in the building so long used as a store by Shepard Patrick, standing where G. Jacobson's clothing store now is, store number seven, W. Main street, and in 1827 removed to store vacated by Morse & Latimer.

JOHN V. VREDENBURGH commenced business about 1825, in the building built by him on the lot corner of Main street and Railroad avenue, where Cline's building now stands.

EARLY MERCHANTS.

A copy of the list of merchants trading in the county of Huron, on the first day of April, A. D. 1826, with the amount of capital.

Cyrus Butler, Norwalk,*	\$5,000
Enos Gilbert	50
Joseph Strong, Jr.,	1,500
J. V. Vredenburg,	2,000

I certify the above to be a true copy of the list of merchants in said county, doing business on the first day of April, A. D. 1826.

GEO. SHEFFIELD,
County Assessor.

Dated June 1, 1826.

* The list of the other towns is omitted here, because not connected with the history of Norwalk.

The following are similar lists made by the county assessor for 1828, 1829, 1830 and 1831.

LIST FOR 1828.

Baker & Kimball, Norwalk	\$1,500
P. Latimer & Co., "	2,500
John V. Vredenburg, Norwalk	1,500

PHILO ADAMS,
Assessor

June 2, 1828.

NOTE—This year the name of Cyrus Butler appears in the list for Florence, capital \$500.

LIST FOR 1829.

John V. Vredenburg, Norwalk	\$1,000
Wm. C. Spolden, "	750
Baker & Kimball, "	1,500
Platt Benedict & Co., "	1,500
Picket Latimer, "	2,000
Tilden & Kittridge, "	100
John Whyler, "	250

PHILO ADAMS,
County Assessor.

June 3, 1829.

NOTE—Butler does not appear on the list this year.

LIST FOR 1830.

Cyrus Butler & Co., Norwalk	\$1,000
Baker & Kimball, "	1,500
P. Latimer & Co., "	1,500
Tilden & Kittridge, "	150
John Whyler, "	500

GEO. SHEFFIELD,
Assessor, Huron County.

June 1, 1830.

NOTE—The name of John V. Vredenburg appears in the list for Florence, capital \$500.

LIST FOR 1831.

Baker & Kimball, Norwalk	\$2,000
Buckingham & Sturges, Norwalk	1,500
David H. Fitch, " since April 1	1,500
P. Latimer & Co., " "	2,300
John Whyler, " since April 1	1,300

Attest: GEO. SHEFFIELD, Assessor.

NOTE—This year the name of Cyrus Butler appears as a merchant in Florence, with a capital of \$500, and J. V. Vredenburg, with a capital of \$700.

No further lists of this kind have been found, and it is probable that the practice of a general listing of merchants was abandoned after 1831, and the present mode of assessment adopted.

In addition to the list for 1828, S. A. Bronson advertised in the *Norwalk Reporter* of May 31, 1828:

BOOKS: BOOKS:

SEVERAL thousand volumes of Books are now received in Norwalk, among which are as follows: (Here follows a descriptive list.) Stationery, &c., &c., all of which will be sold cheap for ready pay, either in cash or produce, at the market price. Enquire of S. A. BRONSON immediately under the printing office.

Norwalk, May 27, 1828.

Also, in the issue of the *Reporter* of April 5, 1828, Aurelius Mason advertised:

JUST RECEIVED

AND for sale, by Aurelius Mason, Dried Peaches, of an excellent quality, and a quantity of Stoneware.

Norwalk, April 4, 1828.

In the issue of the *Reporter* of June 28, 1828, John Whyler announces that he "has just opened his shop in Norwalk, adjoining the public square, where he intends keeping at all times a general assortment of tin ware, which he will sell low for cash, or most kinds of country produce."

The history of John Whyler, as a merchant of Norwalk, is one of thrift and singular prosperity. The writer has heard Mr. Whyler relate that he came to Norwalk with all his worldly goods packed in a wheelbarrow. He commenced business here as a peddler of threads, laces, buttons, etc., in the latter part of 1827, or the early part of 1828, carrying from house to house his stock in trade in two tin boxes. His trade increased so that he soon opened a small store on the lot now occupied by Mrs. J. M. Farr, corner of Pleasant and Main streets. As announced in the above advertisement, he, in 1828, opened a tin shop adjoining the public square, which was put in charge of his son, George Whyler, (father of John G. Whyler, the present plumber of Norwalk). In 1830, the store was removed to the building occupied by the tin shop, and a general stock of merchandise opened up. The place of business was then known as "The Red Store." From this location he removed his business as a general merchant, some years afterwards, to the lot on the northwest corner of Main and Prospect streets, where, in company with his sons, John, Jr., and Edward, he for many years, and until about 1846, carried on a very extensive and general mercantile business.

This place of business was called "The Old Fortress," and in the busy days of the grain traffic at Milan, the streets of Norwalk were, year after year, in the grain season, filled and almost blocked by

two, four, six, eight and ten horse teams attached to "Pennsylvania Schooners," (as those immense canvas covered grain wagons were called,) while their owners were making purchases to carry home. Those "teamsters" came from all the territory south from here to Franklin county, and a very large proportion of them would buy their "store goods" of no one but "Ole Wyler."

He was a bluff, bow-legged, corpulent, jolly, wide-awake Englishman, and the hearty, "hail-fellow, well-met" manner of the man won the hearts and the trade of the "Pennsylvania Dutch" farmers of Central Ohio.

The successful opening of the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Rail Road and the Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Rail Road killed Milan and "The Old Fortress."

Mr. Whyler was born in Lincolnshire, England, and there commenced business as a baker, in which he proved a failure; then he emigrated and settled in Cleveland, Ohio, but continued only a short time; from there he came to Norwalk, and remained until his death.

VILLAGE INCORPORATED.

Norwalk was incorporated by Act of Legislature, February 11, 1828. The following are the two first sections of the act of incorporation:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio,* That so much of the township of Norwalk in the county of Huron, as lies within the following boundaries, to-wit: Commencing at the south east corner of the town plat of Norwalk, in the center of the road leading to Medina, running along the south side of the back alley as far as it extends, from thence in the same direction to the center of the road passing Widow Tice's dwelling, a distance of two hundred and sixteen rods from the starting point; thence along the center of said road forty rods; thence northeastwardly and parallel with the first line to the center of the road passing Ebenezer Lane's dwelling to Milan, a distance of two hundred and sixteen rods; thence along the center of said road forty rods to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby created a town corporate, and shall henceforth be known and distinguished by the name of the town of Norwalk.

Sec. 2. That it shall be lawful for the white male inhabitants of said town, having the qualifications of electors of members of the General Assembly, to meet at some convenient place in said town, on the first Monday of May next, and the first Monday of May annually thereafter, and then and there proceed, by a plurality of votes, to elect by ballot one mayor, one recorder and five trustees, who shall have the qualifications of electors; and the persons so elected shall hold their office for one year, and until their successors shall be chosen and qualified, and they shall constitute the town council.

FIRST CORPORATION ELECTION.

The following is taken from the first pages of the first book of record of the corporation of Norwalk, and comprises the poll-book and tally sheet of the first election held as an incorporated village:

Poll-book of the election held in the town of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, and State of Ohio, this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight. Joseph C. Curtiss, Benjamin Carnon and Wm. Gallup, judges, and Geo. T. Buckingham, clerk, of this election, were severally sworn as the law directs previous to their entering on the duties of their respective offices

No. of Voter.	Names of Electors.	No. of Voter.	Names of Electors.
1.	James Williams.	36.	Geo. Gauff
2.	Wm. H. Hunter.	37.	Henry Tice.
3.	Ichabod Marshall.	38.	Platt Benedict.
4.	Eli Keeler.	39.	Seth Jennings
5.	Hallett Gallup	40.	Geo. T. Buckingham.

6.	Moses Kimball.	41.	Samuel Preston.
7.	Pelatiah Strong.	42.	Daniel G. Raitt.
8.	Daniel Tilden.	43.	Thaddeus B. Sturges.
9.	John P. McArdle.	44.	Jacob Wilson.
10.	Wm. Haughton.	45.	John V. Vredenburg
11.	Sherlock A. Bronson.	46.	Leverett Bradley.
12.	Zachariah Marvin.	47.	Ozias S. Baker.
13.	Sam B. Ames.	48.	William Gallup.
14.	Levi Wilson.	49.	Joseph C. Curtiss.
15.	Barton Sweet.	50.	Benjamin Carnon.
16.	John V. Sharp.	51.	Josiah L. Bottsford.
17.	John G. Taylor.	52.	Abraham Emmet.
18.	Henry Buckingham.	53.	Wm. C. Enos.
19.	Isaac M. Wilson.	54.	Aurelius Mason.
20.	Joseph Wilson.	55.	James Minshall.
21.	Joseph H. Wilson.	56.	Joseph Mason.
22.	Denison Clark.	57.	Frederick Forsythe.
23.	John Ebbett, Jr.	58.	Asahel W. Howe.
24.	Cira Collins.	59.	Michael F. Cisco.
25.	Benjamin Junkins.	60.	Wm. H. Newgent.
26.	Henry Hurlbert.	61.	Charles Slocum.
27.	Nelson Haughton.	62.	Victor Latimer.
28.	John Ebbett.	63.	John Felton.
29.	Nathan Sweet.	64.	Lewis M. Howard.
30.	Charles Lindsay.	65.	Cyrus Butler.
31.	Wm. Taylor.	66.	Jonas E. Benedict.
32.	John P. Savin.	67.	John Ford
33.	Pierney Carkhoof.	68.	Jonas Denton.
34.	John Miller.	69.	John Knott
35.	Enos Gilbert.		

It is hereby certified that the number of electors at this election amounted to sixty-nine.

Attest:

Geo. T. BUCKINGHAM.
Clerk.

WILLIAM GALLUP.

B. CARNON.

Judges of Election.

The following is a copy of the tally sheet of this election, with the certificate of the judges of the election:

Names of persons voted for and for what offices, containing the number of votes for each candidate.

MAYOR.	
James Williams, 41 votes.	William H. Hunter, 26 votes
RECORDER.	
Leverett Bradley, 57 votes.	John V. Vredenburg, 50 votes
TRUSTEES.	
Picket Latimer, 40 votes.	Samuel Preston, 38 votes.
Frederick Forsythe, 39 votes.	Henry Buckingham, 41 votes.
Daniel Tilden, 41 votes.	Lewis M. Howard, 38 votes.
Cyrus Butler, 31 votes.	Isaac M. Wilson, 24 votes.
Charles Lindsay, 29 votes.	Daniel G. Raitt, 27 votes.
Jonas Benedict, 1 vote.	William Gallup, 1 vote.
L. M. Howard, 2 votes.	Isaac Wilson, 1 vote

We do hereby certify that James Williams had forty one votes, and William H. Hunter had twenty-six votes, for mayor; and that Leverett Bradley had thirty-seven votes, and John V. Vredenburg had thirty votes, for recorder; and that Picket Latimer had forty votes, Samuel Preston had thirty-eight votes, Frederick Forsythe had thirty-nine votes, Henry Buckingham had forty-one votes, Daniel Tilden had forty-one votes, Lewis M. Howard had twenty-eight votes, Cyrus Butler had thirty-one votes, Isaac M. Wilson had twenty-six votes, Charles Lindsay had twenty-nine votes, Daniel G. Raitt had twenty-seven votes, Jonas Benedict had one vote, William Gallup had one vote, L. M. Howard had two votes, and Isaac Wilson had one vote, for trustees.

Attest:

Geo. T. BUCKINGHAM.
Clerk.

BENJ. CARNON.

WM. GALLUP.

JOSEPH C. CURTISS.

Judges of Election.

The first meeting of the town council took place on May 8, 1828, at which time the members were duly qualified, after which Ichabod Marshall was appointed treasurer, and John Miller, marshal.

Council again met May 19, and appointed James Williams, Frederick Forsyth and Picket Latimer, a committee to draft a code of by-laws and report at the next meeting.

On May 30, council met to receive the report of the committee on by-laws. At this meeting Eri Keeler was appointed pound-keeper, and authorized to build a public pound. This meeting was adjourned to June 6, and from that date again to June 10.

At the meeting of June 10, a long ordinance of five sections was adopted; the substance of which was that "no hog or hogs, shoat or shoats, pig or pigs," should be allowed to run at large within the limits of the corporation. This ordinance was repealed May 20, 1835, as appears in the record book, page 59.

No further record of meetings of the council is entered until that of April 6, 1829.

The poll book of the election held May 4, 1829, contains the names of twenty-eight electors. The officers for the ensuing year were, Frederick Forsyth, mayor; John Miller, recorder; Mathew Callaway, Lewis M. Howard, Thaddeus B. Sturges, Moses Kimball and William M. Newgent, trustees.

The first book of the records extends to the year 1840, the last meeting of the council, that is recorded, being held April 25, of that year.

At the election held the first Monday in May, of that year, Platt Benediet was elected mayor; J. Sidney Skinner, recorder; F. Wickham, assessor; Timothy Baker, John Kennan, John Beebe, Robert Morton and John Cline, Trustees.

The elections in those days were held at the "Council House," which stood where "Whittlesey Block" now stands; it was a one story frame building of about twenty-four by forty feet, with about twelve feet of the north part partitioned off for a council-room, the front part being used for the storage of the old rotary pump fire engine, a two-wheeled hose-cart and some massive hooks and ladders that required great strength to handle. The old, black, home-made hearse, for many years owned and driven by Eri Keeler, used to be kept there too. For a number of years previous to 1850, Benjamin Shipley used the council-room as a barber shop. The old building was moved away in 1851 to give place to Whittlesey Block.

At the corporation election held in April, 1819, there were one thousand and forty-eight votes polled.

The present (1819) corporation officers are: S. P. Hildreth, mayor; W. V. Watrous, clerk; E. A. Pray, solicitor; Wm. Suhr, treasurer; Jefferson Barber, marshal; H. P. Smith, street commissioner; C. J. Baldwin, Ira T. Conclin, Col. J. A. Jones, J. B. Millen, J. A. Nichols, S. S. Wing, councilmen.

FUGITIVE SLAVES.

In October, 1842, five men, three women and four children, all but one members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and residents of Campbell county, Kentucky, concluded to emigrate to Canada. They crossed the Ohio river and took passage on the "Under Ground Railroad," the earliest, most economical and efficiently managed railroad in the State of Ohio, and had progressed on their journey so far as Fitchville, in this county,—a station on that road, R. Palmer,

agent,—when they were arrested by virtue of a warrant, issued by Samuel Pennewell, Esq., a justice of the peace, of Norwalk township, under what was then called the "Black Law," and brought to Norwalk, on November 2nd, charged with being fugitive slaves. Mr. Pennewell was not in sympathy with the "Black Law," and had publicly stated that he should require the most conclusive evidence of not only ownership, but birth in slavery; and that, before he would issue an order for their rendition, the testimony would have to be so conclusive that it would suffice to establish the legitimacy of a royal heir to his throne.

In consequence of Mr. Pennewell's expressed views, no doubt, a writ of *habeas corpus* was taken out, and the examination removed from before Esquire Pennewell and brought before A. G. Sutton, then an Associate Judge of the Common Pleas Court, and resulted in five of the fugitives being remanded back to slavery; but, for technical insufficiency in the testimony, no order was given against the others, but they were held to await the procuring of further testimony from Kentucky.

Discouraged by the order against five of their party, the other seven then gave up the contest and consented to be taken back.

Two of them were claimed by one party, three by another and seven by a third.

The owners were represented here by an agent, or "slave hunter," who, it appears, was assisted by parties living in Ohio, of whom the citizens of Fitchville say, in one of many resolutions adopted by them November 9, 1842, and signed "Stephen Pomeroy, moderator, and E. A. Pray, secretary:"

"Be it therefore resolved * * * that a large majority of our worthy citizens feel grieved that a Kentucky slaveholder, with a number of bought up (what is called here) Ohio blood hounds, or slave-catchers, should be secretly quartered among us, for the purpose of carrying their nefarious purposes into operation."

At that time Edward E. Husted was sheriff of Huron county, and he refused to have the fugitives confined in the jail. They were consequently kept at the old "Goff House," (which stood where the Congregational Church now is,) under an armed guard, for about one week, and until the close of the examination.

On Sunday morning, after the order of rendition had been given, they were irrofted, loaded on to a four-horse stage and taken through Main street on their way back to—no one here knows *what*.

Hallett Gallup then lived next west of the old "Goff House," which had an upper and lower veranda across its whole front; the negroes were permitted frequently to exercise upon the upper one, and a son of Mr. Gallup, a little lad, took advantage of those occasions to throw apples up to them, and for such favors received as hearty thanks as have ever been rendered to him since, and by those acts probably won the confidence of the slaves; at all events, on the Sunday

before they were taken away, he was engaged in throwing them apples again, when one of them, a large and powerful man, stepped near the railing and threw something which sparkled and flashed in the sunlight as it came through the air and fell into the tall grass at the lad's feet. The guards were near, and a crowd of boisterous men were gathered on the lower porch. Fearing detection, the boy took no notice of what had been thrown him, but soon went and informed his father of what had occurred. That night Mr. Gallup went, and, searching through the grass, found a large silver-handled double-edged "bowie knife," with a silver-trimmed leather sheath. About one year afterwards, a constable of Norwalk called on Mr. Gallup and demanded the knife, saying he had a search warrant for it. Mr. Gallup stepped to the large old-fashioned "fire-place," and picking up an iron poker, turned and asked the constable if that wa'n't the knife he was looking for; but the valiant officer at once became anxious to go back to the justice that issued the warrant so as to return it "not found." Suit was then commenced before a justice against Mr. Gallup for the value of the knife; but upon his demanding a jury trial, it was withdrawn, and nothing further was done about it. That cruel, blood-stained knife is now in possession of a son of Hallet Gallup.

In the volume on "Population and Social Statistics," United States Census of 1870, on page fifty-six, it is stated that the free colored population of Huron county, Ohio, was in 1820, seven; in 1830, fifty-six; in 1840, one hundred and six; in 1850, thirty-nine; in 1860, seventy-nine; and in 1870, two hundred. From this it will be seen, that in the decade from 1840 to 1850, the colored population of Huron county decreased from one hundred and six to thirty-nine, or nearly two-thirds—probably in consequence of the fear of being claimed and sent south as slaves—a fear engendered by this inhuman violation of personal liberty, which was sanctioned by law and submitted to by the freemen of the north in 1842. It will further be noticed, that after slavery had been abolished, and terror of the "black law" no longer hung as a sable pall over the land, in the decade from 1860 to 1870, the colored population increased from seventy-nine to two hundred, or more than two and a half times, and probably a greater part of this increase occurred after the close of the war in 1865. The people of Norwalk and of the whole North were never in sympathy with slavery nor the fugitive slave law, but they were law abiding, and submitted to the decrees of the courts. The question is pertinent: have the people of the old slave States ever, even to this day, shown a like submission to law?

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Norwalk having been incorporated in 1828, one of the first acts of its first council was to provide the newly organized village with some efficient method for extinguishing fires. Muscle then was paramount,

and the only machine accessible was the bucket; consequently the first organization was known as the "bucket brigade." The first ordinance required that each property owner on Main street should keep a certain number of leathern buckets, suitably numbered, and lettered with the owner's name, and hung in the building as assessed, convenient for use, usually in the front hall. Some of these old buckets are still in existence, and might have been seen hanging up to a recent date in the hall entrance of Judge Stickney's office. The judge was an efficient and "leading engine" in that organization. One is now in possession of C. H. Gallup, Esq., marked "P. Benedict," who was one of the members of the brigade. This organization was well disciplined, and at the first "blowing of the horn," which was then the alarm, every man was on hand with his buckets, and two lines were formed from the burning building to the nearest water, and the "stream" passed from hand to hand, in these buckets, the second line returning the empty ones. Every man was then a fireman, and worked with a will and efficiency that might well be imitated with more modern appliances and by more elaborate organizations. But it formed the germ from which has sprung a company that stands at the head of its class and department in the United States, the "Rescue" hook and ladder company, now holding the championship belt and gold prizes won at Chicago in 1878, of which we will speak hereafter.

Following closely upon this first step was the construction of town wells, designed only for fire purposes, and mainly planked or timbered up, one of which may still be seen at the corner of Railroad avenue and Monroe street, but the first were located on Main street. As time passed and the village increased in population, it was thought best to purchase a machine, but, as it could not be reached by taxation, a subscription was started for that purpose, and the project was successful. After doing years of service this old engine was passed over to the "boys," many of whom are now middle-aged business men, and remember with much pride their first "playing firemen" with the old machine. Then the "Champion" was purchased, and the department more efficiently organized: but as yet there was but one company, controlled by a chief engineer, one foreman with two assistants, etc. In 1854, the Whittlesey block was erected, and the corporation built in connection with the other owners of rooms the north room on the ground-floor of said building and dedicated it to the use of the department; and it was so used by them as their headquarters, in connection with a rented hall above, until June, 1877, when the new hall on Seminary street was taken possession of and dedicated, and the rented room given up.

Many years previous to this, however, the needs of the village had outgrown the "Champion," and the "Phoenix" engine was purchased. As yet but one company existed, nearly all the members of which transferred their affections to the new engine. At

the head of the department with this new engine, stood E. O. Hill (afterwards master mechanic at the railroad shops), as chief engineer, and many were the tilts he had with other departments and engines of the State, in most cases successfully. Under his management the department attained a great degree of efficiency, which it maintained up to its disbandment in 1873. It had furnished its hall creditably—had quite a large library, many good pictures, and much other property incident to that department, and its company numbered about sixty.

The increase of risks to property in the corporation, consequent upon its extending its limits, and the natural decrease of the water, had forced upon the citizens the necessity of procuring some more abundant supply and efficient protection, and they very wisely combined the two in the adoption of their present system of water works. This system embraced the supply and protection principles, and very largely superseded the hand engines then in use, and necessitated the reorganization of the whole department, or rather the creation of a new one to harmonize, in its workings, with the changed order of things. The project of a change met with the most violent opposition from the old company, and eventuated in their ignoring the whole thing, and refusing, almost to a man, to have anything to do with it; but an ordinance was passed dividing the village into five fire districts, each district to organize a company consisting of fifteen men, and they to elect of their own number a foreman and one assistant, and also to designate one man as policeman, who is to be called into active service in emergencies by the mayor. In addition to these five companies there was created a hook and ladder company of twenty members, with like officers, making the whole department for actual service consist of six companies, with a total of about one hundred men. The force is under the direct management of a chief engineer appointed by the council, who is paid fifty dollars a year for his services—the only man of the whole force that is paid—the department being otherwise volunteers. This arrangement has proved entirely satisfactory, and the organization is one of the most efficient and successful in the State, or, in fact, in the United States, of its class, as the record of the "Rescues," the hook and ladder company, has demonstrated.

In September of 1878, the first national tournament of volunteer firemen was held at Chicago, and among its prizes offered was a championship belt of the United States with a cash prize of five hundred dollars in gold, and several individual prizes of less value. The "Rescues" of Norwalk had made an enviable record in the State contests during the season and desired to take part in the national contest, but received no encouragement or assistance from the city council. They therefore appealed direct to the citizens, who generously contributed the funds necessary to make the trial, and they entered the contest. This tournament lasted the whole of one week, and was

participated in by all the various departments of the volunteer service of the United States. The contest of hook and ladder companies was to make a run of three hundred yards—a trifle more than fifty-five rods—running their trucks loaded with the full service of ladders, and all other apparatus necessary for efficient work at a fire, to raise a thirty foot ladder, a man of the company making the full run with them and climbing from the ground to the top.

In this contest there were twelve competing companies, among whom were the champions of Illinois and Indiana, who had been under training for months for the struggle. There were to be two runs made by each company, and the average time taken to decide it. The first run was made by the "Mommouths," the champions of Illinois, who made it in forty-nine and one-half seconds, the fastest time then ever made. The "Rescues" next went over the course and made the run in *forty-eight seconds*, beating their strongest competitors a second and a half, and making the fastest time now on record. The other companies in the contest made runs varying in time from fifty to sixty-eight and three-fourths seconds, a difference in time of more than twenty seconds. After an interval of two hours the second runs were made, when the "Rescues" met with an accident to their climber, who, when near the top of the ladder, made a misstep and partial fall that lost him a second and a half, making their time forty-nine seconds, while their competitors had reduced theirs to forty-eight and a half seconds, leaving the "Rescues" a clear *second ahead* and the winners of the prize, the two runs of the "Rescues" being ninety-seven seconds, while those of the "Mommouths," their closest contestants, made ninety-eight.

The company met with a perfect ovation on their return home. Toledo felt that they had an interest in them, advancing as they had the credit of the State of Ohio. They were met by that department, taken in carriages and driven over the city. At home they were received by almost the entire population—drawn by their comrades through the city, and given a public dinner. The employes of the railroad gave them their heavy mounted cannon and their large national flag, and in all this whirl and excitement they realized the responsibility of their position as champions of the United States, and conducted themselves in accordance with that responsibility.

Each of these five fire districts is provided with a neat hose house, besides the large building and hall for the headquarters of the department for general meetings. The first floor of this building is used by the hook and ladder company in storing their trucks and apparatus, and also a hand engine, of which they have control, for emergencies outside of the water works limits. Each of the other five companies is provided with fine hose trucks, uniforms, etc. All the appliances necessary for efficiency and for service depend entirely upon the water works, located two miles away—but connected with the department by tele-

graph and telephone—and which during their eight years of existence have never failed them.

Norwalk may well feel proud of her fire department, and need not hesitate to compare it with any in the larger cities of the State.

WATER WORKS.

The citizens of Norwalk, as the town increased to a goodly size, felt the need of a more adequate supply of water for all purposes, than could be obtained from wells and cisterns, and in 1869, or before that time, the question of erecting a system of water works began to be agitated. Meetings were held, and the council engaged the services of an engineer to make surveys with such an object in view in the future. It was found impracticable to adopt the reservoir system, which was at first proposed. Surveys were made at Maxville, but would require seven miles of pipe. For similar reasons other places, where water could be procured, were discarded. A committee was appointed by the village council to visit Kalamazoo, Michigan, and examine into the Holly system of water works, which had been adopted, and were in use in that city. They were well satisfied with the results of their examination, and on their return the council passed an ordinance which was published December 20, 1869, submitting the question of establishing the Holly system of water works, to a popular vote, the cost of the same not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars. A meeting of the citizens was called at the court house, January 28, 1870, which was enthusiastic in favor of the proposition. The election to decide the question was held February 7th, and resulted in a vote of five hundred and eighty in favor to twenty-one against. The proposition was to issue bonds for the whole amount, the same to run not to exceed fifteen years at seven per cent. interest. It being feared after the vote was taken that the bonds could not be negotiated with but seven per cent. interest, it was thought best to again submit it to the people, with a change in the rate of interest the bonds were to bear, to eight cent. The requisite notice was given, and the second election was held April 30, 1870, resulting in three hundred and ninety in favor of the works, to thirty-eight against.

The erection of water works being determined on, three trustees were elected at the regular time of holding elections, April 4, 1870: the members elected being O. A. White, S. J. Patrick and John Gardiner. On June 1st, a contract was entered into by the village of Norwalk and the Holly Manufacturing Company, of Lockport, New York, for suitable machinery for the purpose desired, the water capacity to be not less than two million gallons every twenty-four hours, and the machinery to be shipped on or before August 15, 1870. Work was at once begun on a well, filters, and a brick house for the machinery, which were erected at a cost of four thousand dollars. The work of laying pipe was also commenced, but was not completed until the

spring of 1871. It had been decided to procure the water from the east branch of the Huron river, some two miles west from the court house. The machinery was duly placed in position, and on March 30, 1871, a test of the working of the machinery was made. A committee of citizens was invited by the council to visit the works. Visitors were also present from Sandusky, Milan, Fremont, Adrian, Michigan, Mansfield and other places. The test proved entirely satisfactory, and was duly reported in the leading papers of this portion of the State. The citizens, one and all, took great pride in the fact of the establishment of a water works system in the beautiful village, their home.

The building for the machinery is fifty-four by fifty-eight feet. The machinery comprised three engines, one being a rotary for reserve purposes, the others double-cylinder piston engines. Two boilers furnished steam, and six gang pumps forced the water, which runs through a filter of stone, charcoal and coarse sand, into a well twenty-five feet deep and twenty-two feet wide, capable of holding fifty-six thousand gallons of water. A telegraph line runs from the works to town; there is also a telephone attached to the wire.

It was found, after a while, that the Holly engines were not satisfactory, and, in the spring of 1878, two new Worthington low-pressure engines and pumps were placed in position, and were tested, in presence of the trustees, April 22, 1878, proving entirely satisfactory.

The cost of the Holly works was a little more than ninety-six thousand dollars, and the new Worthington engines and pipes have cost fourteen thousand dollars more, making a total cost of about one hundred and ten thousand dollars. In the near future it will be necessary to replace the main pipe with a larger size, as the one now in use causes a great loss in pressure from its being too small. At the present time, it requires a pressure of one hundred and sixty-five to one hundred and eighty-five pounds at the works to produce ninety to ninety-seven and one-half at the court house, which is elevated about fifty feet above the works and two miles distant. The system, as a whole, has proved a good investment to Norwalk, and such defects as it may have will, in time, be remedied.

The number of water takers, the 15th of May, 1879, was about three hundred and seventy-five. There are now in place, for use, some ninety hydrants, about fourteen miles of street mains, and two tanks for the use of the traveling public in watering their teams.

The power at the water works is utilized instead of fire engines, in case of fire on any of the streets in the village. As soon as an alarm is sounded, the signal for fire pressure to be applied is sent over the wire to the engineer at his post, at the water works building. The fire companies respond to the alarm, and as soon as the hose are attached to the hydrants, powerful streams of water can be thrown; thus the

water works power answers the same purpose as half a dozen fire engines, and at no additional cost.

Many of the citizens have small rubber hose, which can be attached to the pipes in their yards and used to water the flowers, the lawn and garden, and sometimes to settle the dust on the street. Different forms of lawn sprinklers are used, some of them producing a beautiful spray, and serving the purpose of a fountain. In addition to these fixtures, there are a number of fine private fountains, in different parts of the village, the power for which is furnished by the aid of the heavy engines, located two miles distant.

The present (1879) officers of the works are as follows: W. A. Mack, president; W. A. Mack, J. M. Crosby, David Stoutenburgh, trustees; M. V. Watrous, secretary; U. Pritchard, superintendent.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.

The subject of a new cemetery began to agitate the minds of the citizens during the winter of 1854, and a notice was posted calling a meeting for the purpose of organizing a cemetery association. This meeting was called at seven o'clock, p. m., February 1st, in the Court House, the notice being signed by C. L. Boalt, Samuel T. Worcester and C. L. Latimer as committee, they having been appointed at a preliminary meeting held previously. At this meeting articles of association were presented. Another meeting was held at the same place February 22d, at which time an organization was effected under the statutes of Ohio, the same to be known as the Norwalk Cemetery Association. The following trustees were elected: C. L. Latimer, S. T. Worcester, Henry Brown, John Tift and Giles Boalt. At a meeting of the trustees, held March 1, 1854, at the office of S. T. Worcester, John Tift was elected president, and H. Brown, clerk and treasurer. Mr. Tift has continued as president of the association to the present time, and for a number of years has also held the offices of secretary, treasurer and superintendent. The present officers of the association are John Gardiner, Theo. Williams, Henry Brown, D. D. Benedict, and John Tift, trustees, the latter holding all the offices of the board.

The original members of the association at its formation, as shown by the signatures to its articles, were H. Brown, Shepherd Patrick,* John Tift, George H. Safford, Jairus Kennan,* John H. Foster,* Joel E. Mead,* Samuel T. Worcester, O. G. Carter, C. E. Pennewell, G. T. Stewart, O. Jenny, C. L. Latimer, M. Olmstead, Nathan Wooster,* C. E. Newman, E. E. Husted,* Cyrus Lyman,* Stephen Boalt, Jos. M. Farr,* John Whitbeck, Russel M. Wheeler,* Isaac Underhill and D. D. Benedict.

The property selected for the purpose by the board of trustees, was a part of the Gibbs' farm, a mile from town on the old Medina road, and containing

about thirty acres. The original cost was one thousand five hundred dollars, which amount was raised by subscription. The deed of the property was given by Henry and Sarah Brown to the association, on the sixth day of January, 1858. Considerable difficulty was experienced in raising a sufficient amount of means to pay for the same, but it was finally accomplished. Five hundred and thirty-four lots have been sold, and one thousand one hundred and twelve burials have taken place to May 9, 1879.

A receiving vault of cut stone and fine architectural design, is now being erected under the charge of Dr. Tift and Theodore Williams, Esq. It is eighteen by twenty-eight feet over all, and fourteen by twenty-four feet inside measurement, and will accommodate twenty-five to thirty caskets.

The first burial in the new cemetery was that of Herbert Barnhart, aged six months and twenty-four days, and was on July 13, 1854.

The affairs of the association have always been managed with marked ability and integrity by its officers, who have served long and well without fee or pecuniary reward.

It has now a permanent fund, mostly invested in real estate security, of about eight thousand dollars, the interest from which is devoted to repairs and improvements.

The grounds upon which the cemetery is laid out, form a part of the Captain John Boalt farm, where the youthful days of his sons, Charles L. Boalt, John M. Boalt and their brothers and sisters were passed. There their sister, Sarah was married to William Gallup, May 2, 1819. John is now postmaster at Sandusky City, Ohio, and Charles L. and his sister Sarah and her husband, have come back to their old home to go hence no more.

From Captain John Boalt the property passed to Samuel R. Gibbs, grandfather of P. C. Breckeuridge, present sheriff of Huron county, whose family occupied it until purchased for its present use.

But prior to any of these occupants, prior to the first settlement of the white man in "New Connecticut;" prior to the records of history or tradition, it was a favorite resort of a race of people whose origin and fate are shrouded in mystery; that they existed, and at some time in the unrecorded past frequented this beautiful spot, is beyond question, for they left behind them enduring evidence of their workmanship and primitive habits. Nearly forty years ago, when our present "city of the dead" was a cornfield, and the writer a little boy, he gathered many specimens of what are called Indian hatchets and Indian arrow-heads from that very spot. Now well-kept avenues and foot-paths, slightly monuments and humble head stones, ornamental shrubbery and stately shade trees, and our sacred dead, are there.

Again in the cycles of time it is the resort of another race of people, not with weapons of war and destruction, but armed with floral tributes and commemorative garlands; and there, one by one, in end-

*Those marked with a * have found a last resting-place in the grounds they provided for at that time.

less march, we lay away our dead, and as time rolls on we follow them.

It is a fitting memory to be recorded that Charles L. Boalt was the most active member of our community in organizing the association and procuring the site. And Dr. John Tilft, its one president and superintendent, and for some years, also secretary and treasurer, is entitled to the credit of having carefully guarded its financial interests, and judiciously directed its improvement.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL.

The cemetery connected with St. Paul's (Episcopal) church was one of the very earliest in use for that purpose in the township. It comprises about four acres of ground near the center of the village, on West Main street, and the grass-covered mounds in this home of the dead, are very thickly strewn over its surface. At the present time, and since the organization of the Norwalk cemetery association, this ground has been but little used. The oldest stone in the yard bears the following inscription:

CAROLINE TICE.

Died, March, 1820.

AGED NINE MONTHS.

"I am the first come here to lie
Children and youth prepare to die."

The property on which stands the church and the ground used for burial purposes, was a part of the original Starr and Canfield tract, which at an early day came into the possession of White, Tweedy and Hoyt, who sold this lot for the above named purpose, for the sum of sixty-one dollars. The deed for this property is recorded in volume V. of records, page 610. The grantee in the deed is St. Paul's Episcopal church.

No record has been preserved of the burials in this old burying ground, and it is not known how many there are, and probably it never will be known until each grave gives up its dead.

Whole families lie there with no one left to tend and trim their graves; and the present busy generation, with all its interests centered upon the ever-changing affairs of life, passes by unheeding; but nature, more kind, is rapidly hiding the neglect under a dense copse of hazel and blackberry bushes.

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC.

The cemetery belonging to St. Paul's Church, (German Catholic), was purchased about the year 1870, and comprises a little more than five acres, situated on South West street. From the date of its purchase, until the present time, 1879, there have been about sixty interments.

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC.

St. Peter's cemetery, belonging to the First German Catholic Church, was established with the church in 1841, the first burial taking place while the church was in process of construction. Up to

the present time there have been about five hundred interments.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC.

The Irish Catholic cemetery, belonging to St. Mary's parish, is located near the extension of Main street, at some distance from town. The property contains about three acres, and was purchased about 1868, since which time it has been used as a church burial ground.

SOCIETIES. 1676541

SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETY.

Very early in the year 1861, the citizens of Norwalk began to work for the soldiers. A part of the Eighth regiment had been collected, quartered and drilled there. On the Sabbath before they left, religious services were held in their camps, and the occasion, so new and affecting, called forth the most profound sensations of sorrow and apprehension. Some days previously, the ladies had been engaged in supplying these soldiers with such necessities and luxuries as the deepest interest could suggest. Immediately after their departure, a society of both sexes was formed, the object of which was to follow those who went from the vicinity, with aid and comfort in any form, and by any means that could reach them; thus securing, as was hoped, an unbroken intercourse with them. A quarterly subscription among the gentlemen, was established, the first installment of which is dated May 18, 1861. The officers elected were: Charles B. Stickney, president; J. O. Curtis, secretary; David H. Pease, treasurer; Mrs. G. G. Baker, Mrs. J. W. Baker, Mrs. O. Jenney, Mrs. C. E. Pennewell and Mrs. S. T. Worcester, board of directors—the last named secretary of the board. From that time till November, 1862, something was continually being done, but the difficulties in the way of reaching the regiments, after they went into actual service, and the consequent irregularity of the quarterly payments, seriously obstructed progress. In the meantime, a society had been organized in Cleveland, through which, as a medium, it was believed that the regiments could be reached. Application was personally made to that society, by the secretary of the board, in Norwalk, for assistance in sending a box of hospital stores to the Eighth regiment, then in West Virginia; the surgeon of that regiment having, by letter, applied for immediate aid. The request was cheerfully granted; the box sent, received in time, and earnest thanks therefor returned. This occurrence awakened new life, and eventually led to the formation, in August, 1862, of the Alert Club, to collect funds, and in November of the same year, to the transfer of all the offices to the ladies. At the time of the transfer, Mrs. J. M. Farr was elected president; Mrs. D. H. Pease, secretary; and Mrs. T. S. Worcester, treasurer. The work then went on prosperously, funds were ample, the contributions sent forward, large and valuable, and mostly trans-

mitted through the organization in Cleveland. November 20, 1863, Mrs. S. T. Worcester was elected president; Mrs. W. O. Parker and Mrs. C. E. Pennewell, vice-presidents; Mrs. M. A. Corwin, secretary; and Mrs. N. S. Moulton, treasurer. Before the close of the year, Mrs. C. Gallup took the place of Mrs. Worcester, and Mrs. F. Sawyer that of Mrs. Moulton, those ladies having resigned. At the next annual meeting, November 19, 1864, Mrs. J. F. Dewey was elected president, and Mrs. E. E. Husted, vice-president. There were no other changes. Total funds received, \$3,455.94. Total disbursed, \$3,385.94. The remaining \$70 were given to the Young Men's Library, to assist in its establishment. No account of the stores sent forward, before the transfer, has been preserved, though they are known to have been creditable. Since that date, two hundred and twenty-five boxes, barrels or kegs have been forwarded, with various, and sometimes quite large sums in cash, to be disposed of by known and trusty agents. They were sent to the sanitary commission, Christian commission, relief association in Washington; to Annapolis, Richmond, Gettysburg, Martinsburg, Winchester, Harper's Ferry, Alexandria, Hilton Head; to Governor Brough for the use of State agents; to the Eighth, Fifty-fifth, One Hundred and First, and One Hundred and Twenty Third regiments, and occasionally to others. Many letters from many soldiers, in different localities, attest the fidelity of those to whom they were entrusted, and the donors rest satisfied with the result of their labors. The society disbanded June 1, 1865.

NORWALK UNION.

Mrs. H. M. Wooster, president; Mrs. Eli Peters and Miss M. A. Watson, vice-presidents; Mrs. J. M. Farr, secretary; and Mrs. D. W. Newton, treasurer.

The members of this society had been active members in the Soldier's Aid Society of Norwalk until November 21, 1863, and the results of their industry prior to that date are included in the foregoing report. On forming a separate organization, they continued their labors for the soldiers with remarkable vigor and success, and with uniform loyalty to the sanitary commission.

In the year and a half of their independent organization, they disbursed in cash one thousand eight hundred and sixty dollars and forty-four cents, and forwarded two hundred packages of hospital stores, valued at one thousand dollars—making a total contribution of two thousand eight hundred and sixty dollars and forty-four cents. The hospital garden at Chattanooga was an object of much interest to the ladies of this society, who frequently remembered it in their gifts, and in the spring of 1864 forwarded onion sets, and garden seeds in great variety for its early cultivation. The preparation of "chopped pickle" was a specialty of the Norwalk Union, over one thousand gallons having been forwarded to the army in the course of one summer. At the close

of the war, the surplus funds of this society were distributed as follows: One hundred dollars to the Columbus Soldiers' Home; one hundred dollars to the Union Commission, New York; fifty dollars to the Cleveland Soldiers' Home; and the remainder, eighty dollars, to the Norwalk Young Men's Library Association.

YOUNG LADIES' ALERT CLUB.

The Alert Club commenced its labors in August, 1862, but was not fully organized until September 13th, of that year, when the following officers were elected: Mrs. S. T. Worcester, president; Miss Lizzie Gallup, secretary; Misses Mary Graves and Lucy Preston, treasurers; and Mrs. T. W. Christian, Misses S. Rowland and C. Jenney, directresses, with an indefinite number of collectors.

The Soldiers' Aid Society had been in operation over a year, but was languishing for want of funds, the quarterly subscription on which it depended being irregularly paid. In this emergency, thirty-seven young ladies, whose numbers soon increased to sixty, agreed to unite for one year, specially to raise funds for that society, but also to be on the alert (hence their name) to contribute in every possible way to the comfort of the needy soldier. They immediately revived the gentlemen's quarterly subscription and collected it, and without delay established a ladies' monthly, and in October following, a gentlemen's monthly subscription. These three subscriptions they faithfully and promptly collected the entire year, and paid over the proceeds (eight hundred and twenty-four dollars and seventy-five cents) to the aid society. They held regular meetings, prepared large quantities of lint and bandages; made over one hundred and eighty pairs of slippers, over six hundred handkerchiefs, ninety-six towels, two quilts, and cut and dried thirty-one bushels of apples—all which they passed over to the aid society; besides sending many kind remembrances, in various forms, to the regiments with which they were acquainted. They also collected a special subscription, to pay the debt on the house of Bessie Lynch, her husband being the first Norwalk soldier killed in battle, and herself and three young children left destitute. This, with some small debts which the creditors at their request remitted, amounted to sixty dollars and six cents.

At the expiration of the year, they voted to associate for another year. Miss C. Jenney resigned. Miss S. C. Mason was elected recorder, a new office which the nature of the service soon to be entered upon required.

They now agreed to leave the subscription lists to the aid society and to raise their own funds by festivals, tableaux, dramatic entertainments, etc., and to devote them to clothing the children of absent soldiers, and of poor widows, furnishing them with all the necessities required by well conditioned scholars, looking after them, keeping them in school, etc. In this service, they were greatly assisted by Mr. Stephenson, superintendent of the public schools, and by a num-

ber of judicious married ladies. They had, from the first of September, 1863, to the first of November, 1864, forty-nine different families as beneficiaries, furnishing to each new material, according to their need, in value from two dollars and fifty-two cents, the lowest sum, to sixty-one dollars and nineteen cents, the highest. Total amount raised during that time, one thousand eight hundred and forty dollars and eighty-two cents; total expended: one thousand four hundred and ninety-six dollars and ninety-nine cents. They also sent forward various contributions, as sympathy prompted, to the soldiers. In November 1864, they organized as a regular soldiers' aid society, specially voting to retain their own distinctive name. Officers: Mrs. S. T. Worcester, president; Mrs. T. W. Christian and Miss S. Rowland, vice-presidents; Miss Lizzie Gallup, recording secretary; Miss Mary Wickham, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. W. M. Cline, treasurer. They began this year with three hundred and forty-three dollars and eighty-three cents, the overplus of last year. They continued to acquire as well as expend, so that at their last regular meeting in May, 1865, they had forwarded in all, thirty-seven boxes, barrels or kegs, of hospital stores, three hundred dollars in cash, and had in possession or expectancy, four hundred and sixty dollars. To this sum they added the net gain of a subsequent series of tableaux, and eventually presented to the young mens' library, then being established, the sum of nine hundred dollars. With the remainder they purchased, framed and suitably lettered the two engravings entitled "The First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation," and "Washington Irving and His Friends," and presented them to the grammar school, from which many of their tableau performers had been taken. Total funds raised and expended, three thousand nine hundred and thirty-two dollars and ninety-three cents.

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

The Soldiers Memorial association was organized to perpetuate the memories of our noble dead, who served or suffered for our common country during her wars. The organization was perfected on the 20th of July, 1877, with the following officers: Col. C. P. Wickham, 55th O. V. I., president; Chas. W. Lee, U. S. N., vice-president; David T. Hall, 14th O. V. I., secretary; Baxter Trevor, treasurer; Col. H. Kellogg, Mrs. J. F. Dewey, and Miss Lottie Gibbs, executive committee.

The association has annually decorated the graves of their fallen comrades, on the 30th of May each year, with appropriate services.

MASONIC FRATERNITY.

MT. VERNON LODGE, NO. 64, F. AND A. M.

Dispensation to work was granted by Brother John Snow, Most Worshipful Grand Master, April 10, 1821; the charter was granted December 12, A. L. 5821, A. D. 1821, to Timothy Baker, Platt Bene-

diet, John D. Haskins, Schuyler Vanrensselaer, Amos Woodward, Daniel Tilden, Enos Gilbert, Ichabod Marshall, David Underhill and David Gibbs.

WORSHIPFUL MASTERS.—Timothy Baker, 1821 to 1825; Platt Benedict, 1826; Timothy Baker, 1827; Theodore Baker, 1828; no record from May 26, 1828, to April 30, 1834; Platt Benedict, 1834 to 1841; Benjamin Carman, 1842; no record from January 24, 1842, to February 26, 1844; James R. Norton, 1844; Platt Benedict, 1845; James R. Norton, 1846; John P. Worstell, 1847; Eli Barnum, 1848 to 1851; Oliver True, 1852; M. R. Brailey, 1853 and 1854; S. F. Rogers, 1855; R. W. Beekwith, 1856; D. M. Barnum, 1857; Oscar Welch, 1858; Marshall O. Waggoner, 1859; Oscar Welch, 1860; Horace Kellogg, 1861; James S. Felton, 1862; John H. Powers, 1863 to 1865; Oscar Welch, 1866; J. H. F. Weirs, 1867 and 1868; T. P. Bishop, 1869; J. H. F. Weirs, 1870, T. P. Bishop, 1871 to 1873; O. A. White, 1874 to 1876; C. M. Wilcox, 1877 and 1878; O. A. White, 1879.

The present officers are, O. A. White, W. M.; T. L. Williams, S. W.; J. D. Cook, J. W.; W. Suhr, Treas.; G. W. Shultz, Sec.; R. H. Burlin, S. D.; J. H. Weirs, J. D.; P. Ganung, Tyler.

HURON ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, NO. 1.

December 13, 1820, a dispensation was issued by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Ohio to Timothy Baker, David Underhill, Frederick Fally, Rodolphus Morse, David Gibbs, Schuyler Vanrensselaer, Platt Benedict, Wm. Hall and Jacques Hubbard, to form a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. The Royal Arch degree was conferred the first time October 25, 1820, upon E. Whittlesey, Samuel Spencer and Moses Farwell.

December 15, 1821, a charter was issued to the above named companions, constituting Huron Royal Arch Chapter, No. 7, in due form. Timothy Baker appointed First High Priest; David Underhill, First King; Platt Benedict, First Scribe.

The first election of officers was held December 20, 1822. Timothy Baker, elected High Priest; David Underhill, King; Platt Benedict, Scribe; S. Vanrensselaer, C. of H.; E. Cook, P. S.; Amos Woodward, R. A. C.; J. D. Haskins, 1st V.; M. Farwell, 2nd V.; L. Fay, 3rd V.; J. Marshall, Treasurer; David Gibbs, Secretary; H. P. Morse, Guard.

Early in 1823, the subject of building a Masonic hall was talked of, but did not assume any definite form until January, 1824, when a committee was appointed to confer with like committees from Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 64, and Norwalk Academy, to make arrangements to build a Masonic hall. March, 1824, the committee made their report; when the Chapter appointed a building committee, with power to act, and the Treasurer ordered to pay to the building committee two hundred dollars. Here the project seems to have died, as we find no records of any action thereon.

The Chapter held its regular meetings and did a great deal of work until November, 1828, when, in consequence of the anti-masonic movement, it suspended work, and soon after surrendered its charter to the Grand Chapter.

Timothy Baker was the presiding officer from the organization to November, 1827, when Platt Benedict was elected High Priest, which position he held at the time the charter was surrendered.

In 1848, the Grand Chapter returned the old charter to the companions of Huron Royal Arch Chapter, when they commenced holding regular meetings, Platt Benedict being the High Priest, in which position he was continued until 1853.

March 1, 1854, a committee was appointed to confer with a like committee from Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 64, to make such arrangements as they might deem proper to build a new hall in the Whittlesey academy building.

June 24, 1854, St. John's day was celebrated by laying the corner stone of Whittlesey academy building. June 24, 1858, the new masonic hall was dedicated.

Since the reorganization in 1848, to the present time, Huron Royal Arch Chapter, No. 7, has continued to hold its meetings regularly, and is now in a flourishing condition, numbering nearly one hundred members.

Its present officers are Wm. Suhr, High Priest; T. P. Bishop, King; G. M. Darling, Scribe; C. Close, C. of H.; Wm. Rutherford, P. S.; M. A. McIntyre, R. A. C.; C. G. Drake, 1st V.; John Pettys, 2nd V.; A. N. Pebbles, 3rd V.; N. H. Pebbles, Treasurer; J. D. Cook, Secretary; E. A. Pray, Chaplain; P. Ganung, Guard.

NORWALK COUNCIL ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS, NO. 24 F. & A. M.

October 29, A.D. 1855, a dispensation was issued by the Grand Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of Ohio, directed to Platt Benedict, Wm. C. Haestis, H. V. Bogart, J. S. Felton, H. Bromley, Samuel Neff, B. F. Gray, M. R. Brailey, L. Wood, A. Hamilton, T. Gibson, C. Buck and W. H. Couch.

October 16, 1857, a charter was issued to the above named companions constituting Norwalk Council Royal and Select Masters, No. 24, in due form. Platt Benedict, appointed first "Thrice Illustrious Master," in which office he continued until the time of his death in October, 1866.

The following named companions have been elected: T. I. Masters, James S. Felton, for the year 1867; Wm. Suhr, 1868-70; Wm. A. Mack, 1870; Coleman Close, 1871-4; Wm. Suhr, 1874-79. Present officers, Wm. Suhr, "Thrice Illustrious Master;" George M. Darling, "Deputy Master;" Nelson H. Pebbles, "Principal Conductor of the Work;" Horace Kellogg, "Captain of the Guard;" John H. Pettys, Treasurer; Ethau

A. Pray, Recorder; Asher F. Rowland, "Conductor of the Council;" Peter Ganung, Sentinel.

NORWALK LODGE.

Norwalk Lodge, No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons, was granted a dispensation by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of Ohio, viz: Alexander H. Newcomb, on the 12th day of July, A. D., 1872, on the petition of George W. Skyrn, S. E. Carrington, William H. Couch, Walter Pettys, M. M. Perkins, W. O. Smith, William Arnold, Omar Bailey, George M. Darling, H. C. Edwards, Thomas Smith and Irving K. Cole. The dispensation appointed Walter Pettys, W. M., S. E. Carrington, S. W., and George W. Skyrn J. W., until the time of the regular annual election of officers. The Worshipful Masters of this Lodge have been as follows, viz: Walter Pettys, from July 12, 1872, to December 12, 1872; William A. Mack, from December, 1872, to December, 1877; O. Prentiss, from December, 1877, to December, 1878, and from December, 1878, now serving, L. C. Laylin. The officers, in full, at the present time are as follows: L. C. Laylin, W. M.; John Harley, S. W.; A. L. Osborn, J. W.; George M. Darling, Treas.; E. W. Gilson, Sec.; C. L. Merry, S. D.; F. H. Boalt, J. D.; Walter Pettys, T.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

Norwalk Commandery, No. 18, Knights Templar, was organized February 8, 1869, under dispensation of the Grand Commandery of the State of Ohio, Sir Heman Ely, of Elyria, being at the time R. E. G. Commander. The following named Sir Knights were the charter members: L. S. Felton, M. O. Waggoner, J. W. Develin, H. S. Mitchell, J. H. F. Weirs, W. A. Mack, W. C. Hustis, E. A. Pray, H. O. Wadlie, William Suhr, Ira Lake, Major McIntyre, C. N. Thorpe. At the next stated meeting of the Grand Commandery a charter was granted under date of October 15, 1869. Sir J. S. Felton was appointed by Grand Commander Ely first Eminent Commander. The Commandery now numbers sixty two members, and the following named Knights are its officers: H. S. Mitchell, E. C.; L. L. Chandler, Gen.; O. W. Williams, C. G.; L. C. Laylin, Prelate; C. L. Merry, S. W.; M. S. Hill, J. W.; C. R. Bostwick, Treas.; C. W. Flinn, Rec.; E. A. Pray, Std. B.; O. Prentiss, Swd. B.; A. F. Rowland, Warder; Major McIntyre, Sentinel.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Huron Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Norwalk, April 14, 1845, by authority of a charter granted by the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Ohio, to the following charter members: Liberty Waite, A. Powers, N. F. Benson, T. C. Evans and Franklin Parker. And the following members were added by initiation: Noah Newton, Jr., E. P. Cheesebrough, Thomas Powers, Timothy Baker, John F. Day, Hiram K. Steele, Benj. F. Brown, Erastus Gray,

John S. Roby, William D. Perkins and James Sharpe. The lodge having been thus successfully launched on its mission of friendship, love and truth, was prosperous, and included in its membership many citizens of prominence, among others Dr. J. Tift, C. B. Stiekney, J. M. Farr, S. L. Hatch, W. W. Redfield, Hiram Rose, J. F. Dewey, G. T. Stewart, P. N. Schuyler, J. H. Rule, W. O. Parker, Franklin Sawyer, M. F. Wooster, John Cline, S. H. Berry, R. A. Pantlind, W. O. Abbott, Edwin H. Brown, B. P. Smith and many others. Since its organization it has admitted three hundred and sixty-one members, and at this date (May 10, 1879,) has one hundred and ten members. In furtherance of its charitable mission it has expended twenty-one thousand dollars; and has now invested in real and personal property, and in its widows' and orphans' fund, about ten thousand dollars, all of which is pledged to the beneficent purposes of the friendly order of American Odd Fellowship.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The Norwalk Division, No. 227, Sons of Temperance, was chartered and instituted on the 3d day of June, 1847, with the following charter members: Samuel T. Worcester, Geo. T. Cole, James N. Goodhue, Geo. Gongh, Chas. A. Preston, A. R. Berry, Timothy Baker, Jr., Phillip N. Schuyler, Erastus Gray, Charles E. Pennewell, Henry M. Hotchkiss, A. S. Curtiss, Gideon T. Stewart, Daniel A. Baker and Edwin H. Brown. The first elected officers were, Samuel T. Worcester, W. P.; Daniel A. Baker, W. A.; Gideon T. Stewart, R. S.; E. H. Brown, A. R. S.; A. S. Curtiss, F. S.; Timothy Baker, Jr., Treas.; P. N. Schuyler, Con.; A. R. Berry, A. C.; Benj. Ellis, I. S.; Addison C. Brown, O. S.

The organization of this division was mainly due to the enterprise of Mr. G. T. Stewart, who is and always has been a zealous worker in the temperance cause. The division is its own historian. The record of more than one thousand six hundred meetings, and of thirty-three years of associated life, with all their trials, sacrifices, doubts, fears, hopes and triumphs, lies before us. Thirty-three years ago, on the first Tuesday evening of June, 1847, this division was instituted in the Odd Fellows hall, on Mechanic street (now Whittlesey avenue). The division continued to hold its meetings in that hall for over three years, a bond of fraternal sympathy springing up between the two orders which has continued to this day. During these three years the division had accumulated sufficient funds to purchase and fit up a hall for its own use, in the second story of the frame building then standing next door of the Norwalk Branch Bank of the State of Ohio, on Main street, over the store occupied by Jenney & Peters, clothing store, which was publicly dedicated on the evening of August 13, 1850. Here the division held its meetings for five years, until the morning of October 13, 1855, when the building was discovered to be on fire.

and all was reduced to ashes—furniture, library, regalia, books and papers—except the records of the recording scribe, which were at his house. The meetings were held at the county auditor's office for about four months, and on February 6, 1856, a new hall was fitted up over C. E. Newman's store. The former hall having been insured for about six hundred dollars, and the division having an interest in the ground on which it stood, was enabled to lease the new hall on long time, and fit it up in good style. Here it continued to meet for more than eleven years, until June, 1867, when it dedicated a fine hall in the third story of C. E. Newman's new brick block, and took a lease for twenty years, which it paid in advance, and expended about one thousand dollars in fitting up, finishing it and publicly celebrating its twentieth anniversary. The number of members in good standing was five hundred and twenty-two, having nearly one-eighth of the entire population of Norwalk at that time. This number does not include two hundred and twenty members of the Fifty-Fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, who were in camp here, and were initiated before they entered the field. Their names remain in perpetual honor on the records of this division. Of the former members sixty volunteered in the Union army, and a number held official commissions.

The apathy which fell upon the temperance cause throughout the country, the financial depression and political excitement resulting from the war, caused a decline in the membership, until, in the spring of 1876, it disposed of its hall and suspended weekly meetings. During the year ending May 1, 1877, the division held monthly meetings at the house of Past Worthy Patriarch Erastus Gray, who set apart one of his rooms for its use. On the 1st of May it leased a hall of Mr. Moses Yale, occupied by the locomotive engineers, and resumed regular weekly meetings, and in four weeks increased its membership to fifty-six. Its trustees deeming it proper leased the large hall in Patrick's block, adjoining the Methodist church, for ten years, paying the rent in advance for the whole term, and after suitably fitting it up have saved over five hundred dollars for future operations. The division now numbers over two hundred active members, and is increasing weekly, ranking as the banner division of Ohio, numerically and financially. It has had the honor of having three of its members, David H. Pease, Thomas P. Bishop and Mrs. Harriet N. Bishop, exalted to the office of grand worthy patriarch of the State of Ohio. Mrs. H. N. Bishop, the present grand worthy patriarch, is the first lady who has had this honor conferred upon her in the international jurisdiction. Norwalk may well feel proud of her division of the Sons of Temperance.

SCHOOLS.

The first school house for many miles was built in the fall of 1816, a few rods from the township line

between Ridgefield and Norwalk, on lot number two of Ridgefield. It stood upon the bank on the left hand after crossing the bridge upon the present road to Peru, about half a mile from the bridge, and was made of logs. The first teacher was Charles Seymour Hale, son of General Hale, of Herkimer; the next was Ann Boalt, sister of C. L. Boalt; and the next, Tamar Palmer. The scholars were Asher, James, Miner, Lyman and Manley Cole; David, Isaac, Aurelia and Louisa Underhill; Alanson, Alva and Betsey Pixley; Jonas and Eliza Ann Benedict; Almira, Daniel and John Morse; Mary Ann Morse and others. In September of the same year, Peter Tice and his son John put up a small framed building, the first framed building in the region, upon the flats in the bend of the road as it turns toward Peru, and used it for a store. Afterward, when the Tices removed to Norwalk, it was used by Judge Baker as a dwelling house, and subsequently became a school house, as a substitute for that above described. Oliver Prentiss, Zacharias Marion and Horace Johnson taught in it at different times. The building was afterward removed to Norwalk and used as a wagon shop; then converted into a dwelling, and used by different families, among which was that of the late Hon. J. M. Root and wife, of Sandusky City, whose first house-keeping experience commenced in it about 1835. Again it was removed to the first lot next north of Whittlesey avenue school house, and then used as a dwelling by several different families, among them that of Hon. C. S. Parker, present Ohio State senator. About fifteen years ago it again became restless and changed its location to Prospect street, where it now rests for a time, the second dwelling house south of the railroad track.

Beside these, school was taught by J. A. Jennings, afterward doctor, in a brick-maker's shanty, on the south side of what is now Seminary street, and a few rods east of Benedict avenue, and later in a framed building standing where the high-school building now stands, but now moved to South street and occupied as a dwelling. School was taught also by Doctor Amos B. Harris, in the old court house, probably parts of two or three years, but the dates during these first ten years are uncertain, and our information is not positive until, in October, 1826, an association of individuals was organized, under the name of "The President, Trustees, etc., of the Norwalk Academy," having previously purchased of Elisha Whittlesey four lots, known then as numbers thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty and forty-one, and being the same lots now occupied by our high-school building, who erected and partially finished a three story brick building upon these lots, the first and second stories of which were designed for the purposes of the academy, and the third story for a masonic lodge. The first and second stories, though far from complete, were occupied and the academy opened in December of the same year (1826) with Rev. C. P. Bronson, rector of St. Paul's Church, as principal, and Rev. S. A. Bronson, Abram Bronson, Mr. War-

ner and Josiah Botsford, assistants. A female teacher, Miss Bostwick, was soon after added, who taught ornamental branches—drawing, painting, etc. At the end of the first quarter, the principal reported the number of pupils in attendance at ninety. The prices fixed for tuition were as follows: Reading, writing and spelling per quarter, one dollar and seventy-five cents; if paid in two weeks, one dollar and fifty cents; arithmetic and English grammar, two dollars; paid in two weeks, one dollar and seventy-five cents; higher branches of education, three dollars; paid in two weeks, two dollars and fifty cents; Greek and Latin, four dollars; paid in two weeks, three dollars and fifty cents. Beside the tuition, each pupil was required to furnish one-half cord of wood or twenty-five cents in money, toward warming the building.

At the close of the first year, the trustees reported one hundred scholars in attendance as the average for the year. The academy continued under the superintendence of Mr. Bronson until May, 1828, when he was succeeded by Mr. Henry Tucker, a graduate of Union College. Owing to the difficulty of sustaining the school, an effort was made to increase the number of pupils by reducing still lower the price of tuition. The salaries of the superintendents and assistants depended upon the amount the principal could collect for tuition, which rendered their compensation very uncertain and generally very unsatisfactory. Mr. Tucker remained until the fall of that year (1828) when he was succeeded by Mr. John Kennan, of Herkimer, New York. There was no lack of ability in these different principals to establish for the academy a high reputation, but it was evidently premature. The country was too sparsely populated and the people too poor to support the expenses necessary for its successful continuance, and we find, in October of 1829, a consolidation of the academy with the district schools, with Mr. Kennan as principal. The number of pupils was thus increased, but even then the salary of the principal amounted to less than four hundred dollars per year. Mr. Kennan continued in charge of the school until the fall of 1830, when he resigned his position, and Rev. Mr. Johnson, formerly principal of the Classical and Young Ladies' Boarding School, of Utica, New York, succeeded him in the superintendency. The population of the Norwalk corporation at this time was three hundred and ten. The board of school examiners was appointed by the court, and consisted at this time of Ebenezer Andrews, Doctor Amos B. Harris, Moses Kimball and L. Bradley.

In August, 1831, Miss Roxana Sprague was employed to teach the school in district number one, and occupied a room upon the first floor of the academy building. The studies taught in the academy at this time were all the common branches, including rhetoric, elocution, astronomy, chemistry, philosophy, mineralogy, geology, music, engineering and surveying, and the Latin and Greek languages.

In April, 1833, Miss Eliza Ware opened a school exclusively for young ladies, in the academy building.

under the title of "Norwalk Female Seminary," but soon after it was moved to the residence of C. P. Bronson, who then resided on the lot directly west of St. Paul's Church. This school was not of long duration.

NORWALK SEMINARY.

On the 11th of November, 1833, the "Norwalk Seminary" was opened in the academy building, under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with Rev. Jonathan F. Chaplin as principal. Norwalk at this time had a population of eight hundred and ninety-nine.

The seminary opened with the principal and one male assistant, and three female teachers, Miss Jenkins, Miss Louisa Hamlin and Miss Anna Langford.

The school was opened successfully, and was prosecuted vigorously, and, at the close of the first year, showed an average attendance of one hundred pupils. Our population in July, 1834, was one thousand and twenty. During the second year a course of lectures was delivered by Dr. Bigelow upon chemistry, and a philosophical apparatus was procured for the use of the school. The number of pupils rapidly increased as the character of the institution became more widely known, and at the end of the second year they reported one hundred and eighty-nine in attendance; and a very large proportion of this number was made up of young ladies and gentlemen of more advanced years, who labored with unusual zeal in acquiring an education.

The seminary burned down on the night of February 26, 1836, with a loss of about three thousand dollars, and no insurance; school books, library and apparatus were all destroyed. The blow was a severe one to the institution, as it had no endowment nor support from public funds, and the people of Norwalk and the patrons of the institution were in no pecuniary condition to rebuild; but with commendable energy the friends of the seminary immediately set themselves to work to raise funds for rebuilding, and upon a larger scale than before. Mr. Chaplin, the principal, and Rev. H. O. Sheldon went east to solicit assistance, while others were laboring amongst our own people for contributions; but means came slow and sparingly. In the intervals, however, the school was not discontinued. The Methodist Church, together with the basement of the Baptist Church, were improvised for the emergency, with an interruption of but four days. Rev. J. E. Chaplin continued as principal, with Mr. Darnell assistant, Mrs. Gosborn, Miss Loveland and Miss Langford in the female department, and Rev. H. O. Sheldon as general agent for raising funds and promoting the general interests of the institution. The catalogue for 1836 showed one hundred and thirty-seven in the male department and one hundred and eighteen in the female—aggregate, two hundred and fifty-five.

The fall term commenced in October, 1836, the

trustees presenting a flattering prospectus. J. M. Gosborn became the agent, and the same corps of instructors were retained. Rev. Dr. Thompson delivered the commencement address to the students and patrons of the school.

In February, 1837, the trustees issued proposals for the erection of a new building, of brick, forty by eighty feet, and three stories high; and, in December, 1838, they were enabled to re-open the school in the new building for male scholars, the apartment for female pupils not being complete. The former principal, Rev. J. E. Chaplin, having been transferred by the Methodist conference to Michigan, Rev. Edward Thompson was appointed to fill the vacancy in 1838. Alexander Nelson was his assistant in the mathematical department, and new life was infused into the school.

At the annual commencement in 1842, the catalogue of the seminary showed three hundred and ninety-one students during the year, and the examining committee spoke in the highest terms of the proficiency of the students and the zealous and faithful labors of the instructors in the various branches.

The financial condition of the seminary was not good. Since the effort to rebuild, debts had accumulated upon the trustees, which they found it exceedingly difficult to meet, and, for the purpose of relief, a society was organized in the fall of 1842, known as the "Norwalk Education Society," the object of which was to collect funds, and aid in other ways the institution to relieve itself of debt and to increase its usefulness, of which society Rev. Adam Poe was elected president.

The general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in New York City in June, 1844, elected Rev. Edward Thompson, editor of the *Ladies' Repository*, published in Cincinnati, and, at the close of the summer session in July, 1844, he tendered his resignation as principal of the seminary, which position he had occupied since the fall of 1838. His resignation was accepted with regret. He was a man of rare literary attainments, of ripe scholarship, of pleasing address, of refined and gentlemanly manners, and purity of life and character, and the vacancy thus created was one of great difficulty to fill.

H. Dwight, who had for some time been the principal assistant of Doctor Thompson, was appointed his successor, and the fall term of 1844 was opened under his supervision, and he remained principal of the seminary until its close, January, 1846.

The seminary had been laboring under heavy indebtedness from the time of rebuilding in 1838, which the most strenuous of its friends had been unable to remove; and now that the stronger interests of the Methodist denomination throughout the State had been transferred to the university at Delaware, the local interest of Norwalk was found inadequate to the removing of the incumbrance, and the whole property was sold under execution in favor of the builders.

NORWALK INSTITUTE.

The Baptists of Norwalk called a meeting January, 1846, to take into consideration the purchasing of the property, and the continuance of the school under the auspices of that denomination; and measures were immediately inaugurated to carry the proposition thus brought forward for accomplishing this into effect. A board of trustees was elected, consisting of J. S. Lowry, Rev. Jeremiah Hall, Rev. R. N. Henderson, Rev. Samuel Woodsworth and John Kelly, and arrangements made to make immediate efforts to procure subscriptions and donations for the purchase and opening of the school, under the name and style of the "Norwalk Institute."

The institute was opened August, 1846, with Rev. Jeremiah Hall as principal, assisted by Nathan S. Burton, and Miss Martha J. Flanders as principal of the female department. The terms of tuition remained the same as under the seminary management, and pupils rapidly filled up the school. In November, 1847, the catalogue showed the number of pupils for the year to be two hundred and thirty—one hundred and fifteen gentlemen, ninety-three ladies, and twenty-two primary—and the numbers continued to increase, till in 1849 their catalogue showed three hundred and six. Rev. J. Hall was succeeded by A. S. Hutchins as principal, who continued to occupy that position till 1855, when the institute ceased to exist.

The legislature of Ohio passed the Akron school law, February 8, 1847, and under this act and the one amendatory thereto, other towns, by a petition of two-thirds of their qualified voters, could avail themselves of its provisions. This law authorized and inaugurated the system of graded schools, which were soon after so generally adopted, and which experience has amended and improved till it has resulted in our present efficient system.

March, 1855, the Norwalk institute was purchased by the Union school district, together with library and apparatus, and Mr. Hutchins, who had been principal of the institute, became the superintendent of our public schools.

FEMALE SEMINARY.

The history of our schools would be incomplete should we omit to mention the Female seminary, established in December, 1837, under the principalship of Miss Harriet Bedford. The school was under the control of a joint stock company, and managed by a board of directors, of which David Gibbs was president, and Dr. John Tift, secretary. The building occupied was the one erected at an early day for our county courthouse, but finding it too small to accommodate the increasing business of the county, it was sold and moved to Whittlesey avenue, and occupied for several years for school purposes. No data can be found from which the text books used, the course of study adopted, or the number of pupils in attendance can be given. In March, 1839, Miss

Bedford was succeeded by Mrs. M. F. C. Worcester, the accomplished wife of Hon. S. T. Worcester, then a resident of our village, whose love of the occupation, united with educational qualifications of a high order, soon gave to the school an enviable reputation amongst our own citizens, and brought in many pupils from other towns.

The price of tuition in English branches was five dollars, including drawing, six dollars; Latin and French in addition, eight dollars; music, five dollars extra.

The seminary, however, continued but a short time, though the precise date of its close we cannot readily determine, as no records have been found. A want of means and pecuniary embarrassment led to its discontinuance, and the building was sold. Mrs. Worcester, however, continued a private school for young ladies for some time after, which was eminently successful.

But the necessity of a good female school amongst our people was still strongly felt, and the matter continued to be agitated until the winter of 1846 and '47, when an act of incorporation was obtained for the "Norwalk Female Seminary," with S. T. Worcester, W. F. Kittridge, C. L. Latimer, John R. Osborn and Rev. Alfred Newton, as trustees, and an effort was made to get the necessary amount of stock subscribed, which was fixed at three thousand five hundred dollars. This amount, after considerable labor, was finally obtained, and a beautiful location was selected in the west part of our village, corner of Main and Pleasant streets, which was the generous gift of Hon. S. T. Worcester, and a suitable two-story brick building was erected, which was completed and fully paid for in June, 1848.

It was not until the spring of 1850 that the seminary was finally opened under the charge of Rev. J. M. Hayes, a Presbyterian minister of scholarly acquirements, who had previously obtained, by purchase and assignment, the interests of the shareholders, with the reservation on the part of some that the building should continue to be used for the purposes originally designed.

Mr. Hayes remained two years, and was succeeded by Rev. Asa Brainard, of New York. He remained but two years, and was succeeded by Miss E. Cook, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke, who had charge of it for the two succeeding years, when she resigned the position to her sister, Miss C. Cook, who remained one year.

Miss Metcalf, of Hudson, Ohio, was then (in 1851) employed with Miss Eliza S. Watson as assistant, and they fully sustained the good reputation the school attained under the former instructors. But the commercial disasters of the country at this time, combined with the growing interests of our citizens in our Public schools, left the seminary without an adequate support, and in 1855 it suspended. Though its life was less than ten years, it had exerted a marked influence in our village and its vicinity.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The history of the public schools of Norwalk, Ohio, from the date of its first settlement in 1809 to the adoption of our present system of graded schools in 1850, presents little of especial interest.

Our district schools were taught for many years in buildings rented for that purpose, but one school house belonging to the district up to 1837, which stood upon the west lot of the grounds now occupied by our high school building. It was a one-story wooden structure, with but one room, which was removed about 1830.

In 1837, a school house was built on the brow of the hill southwest of the court house, now known as Benedict avenue, and being somewhat pretentious from being painted, was known as the "White school house." Another was soon after built on Seminary street, near the old Methodist church, of brick, and another was built on Whittlesey avenue in 1841—the same building now occupied by our public schools.

A building was also rented on Railroad avenue in 1841, where a school was kept by J. H. Foster; and another was kept in a building near the corner of Main and Milan streets, and still another was in the Norwalk seminary building.

The directors in 1841 were Timothy Baker, John R. Osborn and Jairus Kennan.

Our seminary being in operation at that time, there were few excepting primary scholars who attended the district schools.

FIRST TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

In February, 1848, the first congregation of teachers, under the title of Teachers' Institute, was called in this place.

The county board of examiners earnestly requested all teachers, and those intending to make application, to attend this institute, as they had determined upon a more thorough and rigid course of examining the qualifications of teachers than formerly.

The commissioners of the county made an appropriation to meet the ordinary expenses, board excepted.

The first institute proved a great success. It was conducted by Prof. M. F. Cowdry, then of Geauga county, and J. Hurty, of Mansfield, Ohio, assisted by Rev. Jeremiah Hall, the principal of the Norwalk institute. From one hundred and fifty to two hundred teachers, and those desiring to become such, were in attendance.

Lectures were delivered by Hon. S. T. Worcester, then of Norwalk, and Rev. Mr. Sawyer, of Monroeville, and Hon. Isaac J. Allen, of Mansfield, and an interest was awakened in educational matters, the result of which extended far beyond our borders.

FIRST NORMAL CLASS IN THE STATE.

On the 14th day of June, 1848, the first normal class of the "State Teachers' Association" held in Ohio was convened in this place, continuing nine

weeks, and marks an epoch in our educational history, for it seems to have proved the radiating point from which a better, a more thorough and far higher system was soon to be eliminated.

The Honorable Samuel Galloway, then secretary of state, and president of the Ohio State teachers' association, delivered an address before the class.

UNION SCHOOLS.

Immediately upon the adjournment of the "State Normal Class," a meeting of our citizens was called at the court house, to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a system of union schools. This was in August, 1848.

The legislature of our State, in February, 1849, passed an act under which all incorporated cities, towns and villages having a population of two hundred or more might vote upon the adoption of the system—a majority vote deciding the adoption or rejection of the law.

At the spring election in 1850, the question was submitted to a vote of the people, and was adopted with great unanimity. A board of education was elected, and proceeded at once to adapt the brick school building on Whittlesey avenue to the necessities of the school.

Mr. D. F. DeWolf was elected superintendent, and all arrangements were made for opening under the graded system on the 23d of September of that year.

The board of education consisted of six members: W. F. Kittidge, E. E. Husted, Samuel Pennewell, S. T. Worcester, Henry Brown and C. L. Boalt; Henry Brown as clerk of the board.

There were three buildings occupied for school purposes. The Central, on Mechanic street (now Whittlesey avenue,) the South Pleasant street building, and the brick school house on Seminary street; the latter two as ward schools for primary scholars, with five female teachers. The superintendent also gave the larger portion of his time to teaching.

The female teachers were Mrs. DeWolf, Miss Eunice C. Fox, Miss Isabella Farr, Miss M. Barrett and Miss Julia Hitchcock.

The population of Norwalk at this time was about two thousand, and the union school district extended over the corporation.

The school opened with three hundred scholars in the various grades. The salary of the superintendent was fixed at six hundred dollars a year, and that of the female teachers at fourteen dollars per month. A tax was levied for school purposes of two and one-half mills, producing one thousand and fifty dollars, besides the money received from the State school fund, amounting to three hundred and forty dollars.

The enrollment of the year amounted to about four hundred, of whom one hundred and ninety were males and two hundred and ten females, with an average attendance of three hundred. The school was taught for ten months. The departments were divided into primary, secondary and grammar schools.

At the May election in 1851, O. G. Carter and John R. Osborn were elected members of the board of education to fill the vacancies occasioned by the expiration of the terms of S. T. Worcester and C. L. Boalt. Mr. DeWolf was continued in the superintendency, and Mrs. P. A. Seymour was engaged in the grammar school at a salary of two hundred dollars. She continued but a short time, and Miss Jones was appointed to the vacancy.

The enumeration for 1852 shows seven hundred and seven between the ages of four and twenty-one years, with an enrollment in our schools of four hundred and fifty-six. The salary of Mr. DeWolf, as superintendent, was increased to seven hundred dollars. During the year, Miss Ella Tenney, one of the teachers, died, after a brief illness, and a special meeting of the board was held, and resolutions of respect and condolence were passed.

No course of study appears in any of the records of the school at this time.

At the close of the school year, 1853, Mr. DeWolf tendered his resignation as superintendent, and the vacancy was filled by the election of William P. Clark, of Hillsdale, Michigan, as superintendent, at a salary of eight hundred dollars. Mrs. Bates was employed to take charge of the grammar school, and Miss Hill, Miss Julia Hitchcock, Miss Fannie Wilson, Miss Dealing and Miss Lowe in the other departments. The school examiners at this time were Rev. E. Winthrop, Rev. Alfred Newton and Samuel T. Worcester.

The whole value of our school property was returned at \$2,300, and the total expenses of our school for the year at \$1,800. The average salary of female teachers for forty weeks was \$180. A special school tax was levied of two mills. The value of maps and school apparatus was \$150.

In 1855, the board purchased the brick building occupied by the Norwalk Institute, to be used as a central and high school building for the district. The purchase was for the sum of \$3,500, which embraced the two central lots and the present high school building, a small library and some apparatus.

Mr. A. S. Hutchins, the former principal of the Norwalk Institute, was elected superintendent of the Union Schools in September, 1854, in place of Mr. Clark. Mr. S. F. Newman was elected principal of the grammar school, with seven female teachers in the primary and secondary departments.

Previous to the close of the school year in 1855, Mr. Hutchins resigned his position as superintendent, and Mr. William Mitchell was appointed to the vacancy.

Mr. Mitchell was re-elected superintendent in 1856, at a salary of \$1,000 per year, with the following corps of teachers: S. F. Newman, principal of the grammar school, salary, \$600; Miss S. S. Sanford, at \$350, Miss Julia Hitchcock, at \$300; Miss Fannie Wilson, at \$250; Miss Dealing, \$300.

The board at this time consisted of N. S. C. Per-

kins, Jos. M. Farr, C. E. Newman, H. Rose, F. Sawyer and R. P. Geer. A levy of four mills was made for school purposes, and Mr. Mitchell was continued in the superintendency at his previous salary.

At the annual election in 1858, J. A. Jackman and Theodore Baker were elected in the places of C. E. Newman and R. P. Geer, whose terms had expired, and the new board systematized their labors by the appointment of committees to attend to specific duties, to wit: A committee upon teachers, a committee upon buildings and repairs, upon text books, and upon supplies. Rev. A. Newton, William Mitchell and S. T. Worcester were appointed examiners for the year.

There seemed to the board a necessity for retrenching expenses, and the salary of the superintendent was reduced to nine hundred dollars, and in the following year Mr. Mitchell tendered his resignation.

Mr. Theodore E. Baker was elected by the board to succeed Mr. Mitchell in the superintendency, at a salary of eight hundred dollars.

At the annual election, May 5th, 1860, Messrs. C. E. Pennewell and William Case were elected members of the board in the places of Perkins and Rose, whose terms had expired, and at the close of the school year in July, the board elected R. W. Stevenson, then of Dresden, Ohio, to the superintendency, at a salary of eight hundred and fifty dollars, and his wife as assistant teacher in the high school, at a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars.

In 1861, sub-district number nine, joining the union school district on the east, was by petition added to it. At this time the number of teachers increased to twelve, including the superintendent.

In 1863, the salary of the superintendent was raised to one thousand dollars.

The first graduate of our union schools was Miss Sarah E. Wilkinson, in 1861, and the next was Miss Nettie M. North, in 1862; and in the class of 1863 were Miss Arletta Newman, William F. Parker and Cortland L. Kennan.

In 1864, Mr. Stevenson's salary was increased to one thousand one hundred dollars. All the teachers of the previous year were invited to remain, at increased salaries. At the close of this school year there were seven in the graduating class.

In 1865, Mr. Stevenson's salary was again increased, to one thousand two hundred dollars, and all the teachers of the previous year were invited to remain at former salaries. The population of our union school district at this time was three thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the enumeration of children between five and twenty-one years was one thousand four hundred and forty-three, divided as follows: Six hundred and ninety-five white males, seven hundred and thirty-seven white females, seven colored males and four colored females. At the close of this school year there was a graduating class of six.

In 1866, Mr. Stevenson's salary was again increased by the voluntary action of the board, they recogniz-

ing the value of his services, and the salaries of intermediate and secondary teachers were also increased fifty dollars per year each.

In 1867, Mr. Stevenson was again re-elected to the superintendency, with his salary increased to one thousand five hundred dollars.

The board decided to erect a larger and better school house on South Pleasant street, the old one being small and dilapidated. A lot was purchased, adjoining the old one, for eight hundred dollars, and a brick building was erected to accommodate primary scholars. The tax levied was five mills, and the amount disbursed for school purposes was thirteen thousand and thirty-five dollars and seventy-nine cents. There were ten graduates at the close of this year.

In 1868, R. W. Stevenson was re-elected superintendent, at a salary of two thousand dollars, and the salaries of most of the teachers were increased.

There was urgent necessity for more room and more school buildings, to accommodate the increased number of scholars in the different wards of the village. The board obtained from the corporation authorities a deed of two lots on League street, designed in the platting by the "Homestead League" for "public purposes," for the erection of a school house, and the board proceeded to erect a good, substantial two-story brick building for the purpose, known as the "League Street School House."

The building was erected under the especial supervision of D. D. Benedict and Theodore Williams, (a committee appointed by the board,) at an expense of five thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-one cents, which was all paid for without levying any additional tax over that raised for school purposes of five mills. The board also purchased an acre of land on Benedict avenue, in the south part of the village, for the erection of another ward school house, to be put up as soon as the finances would permit, without creating a bonded debt. For this they paid eight hundred dollars.

Our enumeration had now reached one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-four, between the ages of five and twenty-one, and the enrollment in our schools was eight hundred and seventy-five, with an average cost per pupil of twelve dollars and fifty-four cents per year. The graduating class this year consisted of five members.

At the close of the school year in 1871, the superintendent and all the teachers were invited to remain. Mr. Stevenson, however, tendered his resignation, as he had been elected to the same position in the public schools of Columbus, at an increased salary.

Mr. Henry A. Farwell, of Quincy, Illinois, was elected by the board to succeed Mr. Stevenson from September, 1871, at a salary of one thousand five hundred dollars.

The crowded state of our schools in 1872 made it necessary that a school building should be erected on the lot purchased on Benedict avenue, and plans were

procured, and measures adopted for proceeding at once to its erection. D. D. Benedict and Theodore Williams were appointed a building committee, and authorized to fit up the grounds and make all necessary arrangements for having a school opened. A very commodious two-story brick building was erected, about thirty-six by sixty feet, upon the ground, designed to accommodate two primary schools, with ante-rooms, recitation-rooms and black-boards, and seated with modern single seats and desks, having a more tasty and attractive exterior than any of our previous school buildings, at a cost of eight thousand dollars. This building will seat comfortably one hundred and fifty scholars.

Mr. Farwell was re-elected superintendent at a salary of one thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, and the teachers of the previous year were invited to remain.

Mr. Farwell was re-elected superintendent in 1872, at his previous salary.

Miss S. H. Smith resigned her position in the high school at the close of the school year in 1873. She had been teacher of marked ability in our schools for many years, and her resignation was accepted with much regret.

Mr. Farwell was re-elected to the superintendency in July, 1873. There was a graduating class at the close of the school year of eleven.

In July, 1874, Mr. Farwell's time having expired, the board elected C. W. Oakes superintendent, at a salary of one thousand and six hundred dollars per year.

The enumeration taken under the law of May 15, 1872, limits the school age to those between six and twenty-one years—our last enumeration embracing those between five and twenty-one years. We find the number reduced to one thousand six hundred and thirty-four. The average daily attendance was six hundred and fourteen, of whom eighty were in the high school. It should be stated, in explanation of the small per centage of daily attendance to the enumeration, that the Catholic denomination maintains separate schools, and also the Lutherans (making three in all,) and employing four or five teachers. There were twelve in the graduating class at the close of the school year.

Mr. Oakes was re-elected to the superintendency in June, 1875, at a salary of one thousand and eight hundred dollars.

The board this year added vocal music to the branches taught, and engaged the services of Prof. Luse at a salary of six hundred dollars, to divide his time between the different schools.

A brief recapitulation of the prominent points in our school history may not be uninteresting.

Our graded schools were organized under the general law of 1849; they opened under that law in September, 1850; the population of Norwalk was then about two thousand; the enrollment the first year was about four hundred; our present population

(1879) is six thousand and one hundred; our enumeration between six and twenty-one years is one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine; our enrollment in schools, exclusive of Catholic and Lutheran schools, is one thousand and one.

We commenced with four schools, in three buildings, and five teachers; we now have seven school houses; nineteen schools and twenty-three teachers.

We paid our first superintendent six hundred dollars per year, and our female teachers fourteen dollars per month; we now pay our superintendent one thousand and eight hundred per year, and our female teachers from thirty-five to sixty dollars per month. Our monthly pay roll is now one thousand and two hundred dollars.

We commenced with three grades, primary, secondary and grammar; we now have nine grades, embracing the high school, with a standard of education intended to fit pupils to enter college. We think the average cost per scholar, for instruction for a series of years, will not exceed \$15 per year.

Our school property in 1850 was worth \$2,300; it is now worth over \$45,000.

We have had seven different superintendents in our schools since organizing under the graded system, as follows: D. F. DeWolf, from 1850 to 1853; W. P. Clark; from 1853 to 1854; A. S. Hutchins, from 1854 to 1855; William Mitchell, from 1855 to 1859; T. E. Baker, from 1859 to 1860; R. W. Stevenson, 1860 to 1871; H. A. Farwell, 1871 to 1874; C. W. Oakes, 1874.

Our list of graduates numbers 128.

An association of the Alumni was organized in 1875, which proved both pleasant and profitable, and promises to be a permanent society, holding regular meetings hereafter. It numbers among its members many of our best citizens, and gathers from abroad many, occupying prominent positions, who have gone out from us.

The Catholic portion of our population has never felt disposed to participate, to any great extent, in the benefits of our public schools, preferring to maintain their separate denominational institutions. They maintain two schools within our district, employing four teachers.

The board of education has never made the reading of the Bible in the schools imperative upon superintendents or teachers, but has left the matter wholly discretionary with them; and though the general practice is in most of our schools to read a portion of the Scriptures in the opening exercise, no strictures or criticisms have arisen of a sectarian character to disturb their peaceful progress.

There is no local interest dearer to our people than that of maintaining the high standing of our public schools. The impression has grown into a settled conviction, that with universal suffrage, the great safeguard for our institutions, both civil and religious, is in universal education.

LAW AND BUSINESS COLLEGE.

On the 21st day of October, A. D. 1878, Wm. H. Sprague, Esq., established Sprague's Business College, and located it in Gallup's new block. Since its organization, over thirty students have been and are in attendance. It is already a success. By reason of young men soliciting assistance in studying the law, the proprietor has concluded to add a law department, which will open on the 22d day of September, 1879, and will be known as Sprague's Law and Business College. The faculty have been engaged and are well known at the bar, viz: Hon. G. T. Stewart, Col. Frank Sawyer, S. A. Wildman and C. H. Gallup. Instruction in phonographic short-hand will also be given by Mr. P. J. Mahon, a practical phonographer.

WHITTLESEY ACADEMY.

For twenty-six years there has been in existence in Norwalk, a corporation known by name to many of our citizens, but as to whose origin and history there exists an almost entire lack of information. A whole generation has grown up since the "Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences" was organized, who know nothing of the facts which led to its organization.

On the 16th of October, 1816, Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, who held the title as trustee *in fact*, for himself, Mathew B. Whittlesey, E. Moss White and Platt Benedict, filed the "town plat of Norwalk" with the recorder of Huron county. Forty-eight lots are plotted and described, and the conclusion of the description is as follows:

"The roads, streets and alleys are given for public use. Lot 13 is given for a site to build a court house. Lot 12, a meeting house. Lot 1 for an academy or college, and lot 24 for a goal, "evidently meaning goal, or jail.

Lot 1, thus dedicated for "an academy or college" remained unoccupied for many years, and was used for a play ground by the youth of the village, and as a public hitching place for teams, but after nearly forty years Mr. Whittlesey, in 1854, then a resident of Washington, and Platt Benedict, gave a quit claim deed of the lot to the "Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences," which had been organized by a number of the leading citizens of the town the year previous. This quit claim is dated April 26th, 1854.

On the 30th of May, 1853, a number of gentlemen "being desirous of founding an academy, in said town, for the advancement of useful knowledge by courses of lectures upon the sciences and arts, and a library and cabinet of curiosities," made petition to the county auditor, to be incorporated under the laws of Ohio. "The intention being to secure and perfect the title to lot No. 1 in said Norwalk, and erect a suitable building thereon, according to the intention of the donor, Hon. Elisha Whittlesey." Accordingly, G. T. Stewart, who was then the county auditor, appointed three appraisers, David Johnson, David E. Merrill, and Alfred S. Curtiss, to view and

appraise lot No. 1. They duly performed this duty, appraising the lot at \$800, and made their return May 31st. The next day, auditor Stewart issued his certificate of incorporation, and on June 2d, C. B. Stickney, E. Gray, G. H. Safford, J. E. Ingersoll, C. E. Newman, M. R. Brailey, F. A. Wildman and G. T. Stewart, met at the mayor's office to organize. C. B. Stickney presided and G. T. Stewart acted as secretary. G. H. Safford stated the object of the meeting and moved that the association be known as the "Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences." Messrs. Ingersoll, Brailey and Safford were appointed committee to draft a constitution and by-laws, which were adopted at a meeting held June 18th. On the 2d of July, officers were chosen for the year, as follows:

President, S. T. Worcester; vice-president, G. T. Stewart; secretary, J. E. Ingersoll; treasurer, E. Gray; librarian, C. E. Newman; trustees, S. T. Worcester, G. T. Stewart, C. B. Stickney, G. H. Safford, M. R. Brailey.

Within a few weeks, Mr. Ingersoll removed from the village, and F. A. Wildman was chosen secretary. Mr. Gray, who was the first treasurer, has acted continuously in that capacity ever since, nearly twenty-six years. The academy being thus organized, the next thing was to erect a building. At a meeting held November 7, 1853, a building committee was appointed, consisting of G. T. Stewart, G. H. Safford and E. Gray. Subsequently, M. R. Brailey was added to the committee, and the contract for building the present Whittlesey block was awarded to John King. The sum of \$10,137.02, to build with, was furnished by the following parties, who received perpetual leases, subject to forfeiture on non-payment of annual rental or assessments, of the several rooms in the block, the academy reserving Whittlesey hall and ante-room for its own use:

Platt Benedict.....	\$1168 80
E. Gager.....	1217 50
J. M. Crosby.....	1170 00
Husted & Gray.....	779 25
Corporation of Norwalk.....	974 00
Worcester & Pennewell.....	370 12
Jairus Kennan.....	340 00
Osborn & Stewart.....	358 70
G. H. Safford.....	305 90
G. T. Stewart.....	606 60
M. R. Brailey.....	1,608 40
Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 61, F. & A. M.....	904 50

The total cost of the building, as shown by the report of treasurer Gray, was some \$188 more than the above.

The academy is limited to twenty-five members, who hold their membership during life, or until removal from the county. Vacancies are filled at the annual meeting, which is held the second Monday in April. All the rooms in the block are subject to an annual charge for ground rent, and the amounts thus received, with the rental of Whittlesey hall, furnish the income of the academy. Until 1866, when the Young Men's Library and Reading Room was established, the academy furnished a course of lectures nearly every winter, and had accumulated quite a

library and some curiosities. They then made an arrangement with the library association, whereby the latter took charge of their books. An annual appropriation of from \$100 to \$400 for new books has since been made. At this time nearly all the books in the Young Men's Library belong to the Whittlesey academy. The free use of the hall has also been granted the library for lectures or entertainments, to the number of, at least, eight each year.

The affairs of the academy are managed by a board of five trustees, who meet at frequent intervals during the year, the academy itself rarely convening, save at the annual meeting in April. The following gentlemen have been members of the Whittlesey academy in the past:

M. R. Brailey, G. H. Safford, J. E. Ingersoll, W. S. Rose, S. T. Worcester, S. R. Beckwith, B. F. Roberts, J. A. Jones, Edward Winthrop, Charles Bishop, J. A. Jackman, I. E. Morehouse, John Cline, George Baker, Joseph M. Farr, E. M. Stone, A. Brainerd, R. W. Stevenson, D. H. Pease, C. E. Pennewell, L. E. Husted, Jairus Kennan, C. L. Boalt, S. L. Hatch, F. Sears, Platt Benedict, John Mountain, Elmer E. Husted.

The following are the present members:

G. T. Stewart, E. Gray, C. E. Newman, F. A. Wildman, O. G. Carter, C. B. Stickney, L. D. Stratton, John Tift, N. S. C. Perkins, Hiram Rose, Franklin Sawyer, P. N. Schuyler, J. B. Ford, C. P. Wickham, G. W. Knapp, D. D. Benedict, S. P. Hildreth, Henry S. Mitchell, C. L. Keenan, D. H. Fox, S. A. Wildman, Charles A. Lloyd, C. H. Gallup, James G. Gibbs, L. C. Laylin.

The annual meeting for 1879, was held Monday, April 14th. Eighteen members were present. The report of the trustees showed an income during the year of \$665.25 from hall rents, and \$194.92 from ground rents and assessments. (Assessments are made on the several rooms for repairs or improvements when necessary).

The expenditures amounted to \$923.02, of which \$178.17 was for books for the library, and \$133 was for the catalogue of the library. The balance on hand is \$460.86.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: President, F. A. Wildman; vice-president, O. G. Carter; secretary, S. A. Wildman; treasurer, E. Gray; trustees, D. H. Fox, C. H. Gallup, S. P. Hildreth, C. A. Lloyd and S. A. Wildman: of which board C. H. Gallup is chairman.

The use of the hall, free of expense, was tendered to the library association, for lectures or entertainments, to the number of nine during the year. The sum of \$150 was appropriated for books, to be placed in the keeping of the library association. The trustees were authorized to take such action as they may deem proper in aiding the Firelands Historical Society to protect its cabinet.

The academy is one of the most meritorious institutions in the place, and that gift of lot No. 1, is

really the substantial base of our present valuable Young Men's Library.

LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

Early in January, 1866, a number of our citizens convened at the town hall, to discuss plans for establishing a reading room, and organizing a library association. Resolutions were adopted expressing the object of the meeting, and pledging those present to the support of the enterprise. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution and solicit subscriptions.

At a subsequent meeting, held on the 24th of January, a constitution was adopted, as reported by the committee, in which the objects of the association were declared to be, the providing for the people, and especially the youth of Norwalk, additional means for mental improvement through the agency of a library, reading room, public lectures, and other kindred instrumentalities. An organization was then effected under the name of The Young Men's Library and Reading Room Association, and the following officers elected: R. W. Stevenson, president; D. H. Pease, vice-president; T. D. Shepard, secretary; W. M. Cline, treasurer; directors, D. D. Benedict, E. E. Husted, T. P. Bishop and C. P. Wickham. A nucleus of a library was provided by an unconditional gift to the association, of over one hundred valuable volumes, by Mrs. S. T. Worcester.

This gift was immediately followed by a proposition from the "Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences," in which they proposed, (in order to carry more fully into effect one of the leading objects for which the academy was organized,) to loan to the Young Men's Association, all the books then owned by the academy, and all that might hereafter be acquired by gift, purchase, or otherwise, to be kept for its use, so long as the association was conducted according to the articles of its organization. Also, that the academy would appropriate, at that time, \$500 for the immediate increase of the library, and not less than \$50 for that purpose, annually thereafter.

The loan acquired at that time consisted of 1554 volumes, a number of which were a present to the academy from Washington Irving. The library of the association was a short time after increased, by a gift from the Presbyterian church, of 125 volumes.

The labors of the finance committee were attended with considerable success, as the following memorandum taken from their report will show:

Union Aid Society, donation.....	\$ 76 09
Bounty Fund, donation.....	663 16
Christian Commission, donation.....	10 00
Soldiers' Aid Society, donation.....	58 00
Alert Club, donation.....	450 00
Alert Club Library fund, donation.....	420 00
Norwalk High School, donation.....	100 00
Ladies' Festival, donation.....	218 19
Total donations.....	\$2,025 44

With a part of the funds, thus acquired, the association was enabled to lease suitable rooms and pro-

vide furniture. The rooms were supplied with the leading newspapers and periodicals, published at that time, and immediately became the most popular place of resort in the town. In the winter following the organization of the association, an excellent course of lectures was given under its auspices. Since that time the association has enjoyed the services of the best lecturers in the country.

In the year 1868, there were only 2623 volumes on its shelves, and 49 papers and periodicals on the tables, now there are nearly 5000 volumes and over 60 papers and periodicals, in store for its patrons.

The amount of money received annually from membership tickets, and from the interest of the permanent fund, has been barely sufficient to defray necessary expenses. All additions of books that have been made to the library, have been bought by the Whittlesey academy, or by money raised by festivals, excursions, and other entertainments of like nature.

The association is not in debt, but yet it is in great need of more liberal support. It has always been the desire of the association, to occupy a home of its own. It was expected that the permanent fund, with the accumulating interest, would at some time enable it to realize that hope.

The permanent fund now amounts to \$1,900, which is invested in real estate security. In addition to this, the association has invested \$225, a bequest of Mrs. S. T. Worcester. It was Mrs. Worcester's request that the money should be used only in beautifying and adorning the rooms of the association.

The library was first established in rooms in the old Mansion House block. The rooms were inconvenient, and the books were necessarily in a disordered state. A removal was made in June, 1878, to the rooms now occupied in the Gallup block, which were fitted up at considerable expense, new cases provided, and the books arranged in systematic order, and an alphabetical list of the library was taken, and a catalogue prepared. It is the first ever provided and was the best method of preserving the books.

The present officers are, C. H. Gallup, president; C. W. Oakes, vice-president; E. L. Husted, treasurer; G. F. Titus, secretary; J. G. Gibbs, B. S. Hubbard, H. L. Kennan, L. C. Laylin, S. J. Patriek, F. Sawyer, Jr., directors; Miss S. Rowland, librarian.

On account of the loss of the minutes of the preliminary meetings, it is difficult to ascertain, with certainty, the names of our citizens who were most active in organizing and establishing the association, but Mrs. M. F. C. Worcester, Mrs. M. A. Corwin, David H. Pease, R. W. Stevenson and Charles P. Wickham were among them; none, however, were more efficient in the good work than Mrs. Worcester.

This institution fills a very important position among the educational enterprises of the town, and but few of them better deserve the fostering care of its citizens.

CHURCHES

1821--PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

Early in the year 1818 the first public religious services in the township were held at the log house of Platt Benedict and consisted of reading the service of the Protestant Episcopal Church and a sermon, by a layman. After that, and on the completion of the new court house (now Central hotel on Whittlesey avenue), those services were kept up with more or less regularity for some years. In a letter written by Mrs. Ruth Boalt, wife of Capt. John Boalt and mother of Charles L. Boalt, to her daughter, in Watertown, N. Y., and dated June 12, 1829, she says:

"We have no minister with us, but I have the pleasure to inform you that this society meets at the court house every Sabbath and reads the church service and a sermon. * * * Lester read the sermon last Sabbath."

On January 20, 1821, a number of persons of Norwalk and vicinity, calling themselves members and friends of the Protestant Episcopal church, met at Norwalk village. Platt Benedict was appointed chairman and William Gardiner elected clerk. The following named persons were then enrolled as members or friends of the church: Platt Benedict, Luke Keeler, Amos Woodward, William Gardiner, Ami Keeler, William Woodward, Gurdon Woodward, David Gibbs, Moses Sowers, John Keeler, John Boalt, Samuel Sparrow, Asa Sanford, Henry Hurlbut, E. Lane, William Gallup, and Enos Gilbert, eleven in all. Of that number, Ami Keeler is the only survivor.

At that meeting it was voted to organize the parish of St. Paul's Church, Norwalk, and to adopt the constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, and the following officers were elected: Amos Woodward, senior warden: Luke Keeler, junior warden: Ebenezer Lane, clerk, and Platt Benedict, John Keeler, John Boalt, Ebenezer Lane, and Asa Sanford, vestrymen. As no clergyman was then to be had, Platt Benedict, John Boalt, Amos Woodward, Samuel Sparrow and Ebenezer Lane were chosen as lay readers.

The occasion of this meeting was the visit of the Rev. Mr. Searle, an Episcopal minister, who on the next day, January 21, 1820, performed divine service, (the first in Norwalk) and also administered the rite of infant baptism to Louisa Williams, Theodore Williams, William Gallup and Eben Lane. These were also the first baptisms in Norwalk. On the next day he baptized one adult, Henry Hurlbut, and also the children of Captain John Boalt, as follows: Amanda, Clarissa and Martha.

From that time on to 1826 meetings and lay readings were kept up and at long intervals the Rev. Mr. Searle made other visits and administered many baptisms.

In August, 1826, Rev. C. P. Bronson was engaged to officiate for such portion of his time as funds could be raised to pay him for. In 1828 efforts were made

to raise means with which to build a church, and Mr. Bronson was sent east to solicit assistance. The result was that on his return he reported the collection of donations amounting to one thousand three hundred and thirty-one dollars and twenty-five cents, but did not offer to pay over the funds and never did. This unfortunate affair discouraged the enterprise. Bronson's connection with the church was severed in 1829 and no minister was employed until 1833, when Rev. John P. Bausman took charge at a salary of \$400 per year for two-thirds of his time. He remained only one year. Then a Mr. Eaton officiated as a lay reader,—services still being held in the court house—and the congregation was called together by Ami Keeler blowing a tin horn.

In 1835 Rev. E. Punderson took charge and remained about four years.

At the time the first effort, already mentioned, was made to raise funds to build a church edifice, in 1828, the site of the present church and burying ground (four acres) was purchased in the name of St. Paul's Church from White, Tweedy and Hoyt for sixty-one dollars. The deed is recorded July 12, 1828, in volume five of deeds at page six hundred and ten.

In 1834 another effort was made to provide a building and proved so far successful that the larger part of the present structure was erected at a cost of two thousand and twenty dollars. It was completed in 1835 and was consecrated by Bishop Melvaine, June 26, 1836.

In 1837 the original organ (now rebuilt) was purchased of A. Backus, Esq., of Troy, N. Y., at a cost of six hundred and sixty dollars.

In 1839, Rev. Anson Clark, of Medina, took charge until September, 1840, when, on account of ill-health, he severed his connection as pastor, and went south, but returned and took charge again in February, 1841, only to remain until June of the same year.

November 1, 1841, Rev. J. J. Okidi, of New York, took charge, but resigned November 14, 1842.

December 18, 1842, Rev. Alvan Guion took charge at a salary of three hundred and seventy-five dollars, but "if the vestry found it inconvenient to pay that amount, he was to accept three hundred and fifty dollars." He resigned May 2, 1844.

September 30, 1844, Rev. Sabin Hough, of Michigan, took charge at a salary of four hundred dollars per year, and house rent free.

About May 1, 1846, he resigned, because "he believed several of the leading doctrines of the church were at great variance from the principles of eternal truth."

April 7, 1847, Rev. Edward Wintthrop, of Marietta, was called and took charge at a salary of five hundred dollars, remaining until a disease of the throat constrained him to resign in 1854.

June 26, 1854, Rev. George Watson, of Oswego, New York, was called and took charge at a salary of eight hundred dollars, and remained until June 27, 1864. He was followed by Rev. Henry Tullidge on

March 25, 1865, who resigned April 22, 1867. Rev. William Newton took charge May 8, 1867, and resigned June 26, 1870. Rev. H. H. Morrell took charge October 1, 1870, and resigned April 6, 1874; and the Rev. R. B. Balcom, the present incumbent, took charge July 15, 1874.

Benedict Chapel was erected in 1863-4, at a cost of about four thousand dollars, of which amount Platt Benedict contributed about one thousand and five hundred dollars,—hence its name.

In 1868, a bell was purchased and placed in the tower, at a cost of about four hundred dollars.

1823-METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

In the year 1818, Rev. Alfred Brunson, who is yet living, was appointed to the Huron circuit, of which New Haven was the most southerly appointment, and which, on an irregular path, reached to Venice, a few miles west of the city of Sandusky, thence easterly through the township of Perkins to the mouth of Black River, embracing twenty-four appointments which are reached by two hundred miles of travel. One of these twenty-four appointments was at Hanson Reeds, about two miles south of Norwalk, and this was the first Methodist preaching in the vicinity of Norwalk. At the same place, the first Methodist Sunday school was organized in 1823. During this year True Patter and James McIntyre were appointed circuit preachers of Huron Circuit, and a preaching place was established in Norwalk with a class of seven members, which had increased in the following year to thirteen. Hanson Reed, Lester Clark, Job T. Reynolds, John Laylin, Charles Laylin (for many years a local minister), Daniel Stratton, Jabez Clark, Perry Beckwith, James Wilson, Armon Roscoe, A. Powers, Prudence Inman, Thomas Holmes, Ollie Clark and Jane Buchanan, were its members.

The book of the recording steward shows that these faithful ministers received for their services the sum of fifty dollars, of which sum Norwalk contributed about ten dollars. The pay was, no doubt, thankfully received, but it is not supposed that any of it was used in speculation. In the years 1826 and 1827 Shadrach Ruark and Adam Poe supplied the work and shared the hospitalities of the pioneers. The following entry occurs in the official record of the year 1826:

"August 21st, 1826.—This day paid to Bro. S. Ruark, seventy-two cents, the same being the money received at a collection made at a meeting in Norwalk, yesterday. M. KELLOGG, Circuit Steward."

In the year 1829, John Hazzard and Cyrus S. Carpenter were appointed preachers, and on the 24th of November, 1829, a lot was purchased of E. Whittlesey & Co., near the east end of Seminary street, and soon after a church was built. In 1845, the church and parsonage were sold for debt, but the church was redeemed the following year: the parsonage, in the mean time, was consumed by fire. In 1843, Norwalk was separated from the rest of the circuit and placed under the pastoral care of Edward McClure, but the

following year it was strengthened by the addition of Milan, which arrangement lasted but a few years, when Norwalk became self supporting. On the 25th day of December, 1853, the society, at the call of the pastor, Rev. J. A. Mudge, met and appointed a board of trustees. The trustees immediately organized and took possession of lot No. 12, corner of Benedict avenue and Main street, dedicated by E. Whittlesey, Esq., acting, in fact, as trustee for himself and others, to the building of a "meeting house." A subscription was commenced January 4th, 1854, and on the 26th day of October, 1856, the church, an excellent one for its time, was dedicated by Dr. Edward Thompson.

Extensive repairs and changes were made under the pastorate of Rev. A. Palmer in 1867, and a sermon was preached at the re-opening by Bishop Kingsley.

A number of the presiding elders of the district, and preachers of Norwalk, have risen to eminence in the church. In early days, Russel Biglow was presiding elder. Those who heard him, never forget the most remarkable man, as a minister, of his day. With eloquence like a flame of fire, and pathos, piety and energy, that none could stand unmoved before, his praise filled the land; but he died in 1834, when only forty-two years of age. L. B. Gurley was the poet preacher. Dr. Edward Thompson, brilliant as a writer and very able as a preacher, afterwards a Bishop, is well remembered in this place. W. L. Harris, with fine executive ability, once a minister here, is the business Bishop of the church, and few churches have, taking the whole list together, ever been more faithfully or ably served. The present membership of the church is three hundred and fifteen, with a very flourishing Sunday school of over two hundred scholars.

Since 1830, the church has been served by the following ministers: 1830, J. Janes, J. Ragan; 1831, E. Chase, A. Minear; 1832, A. Minear, C. S. Carpenter; 1833, H. O. Sheldon, E. Thompson; 1834, J. Wheeler, E. C. Gavitt; 1835, L. Hill, J. M. Goshorn, D. Burns; 1836, L. Hill, Thomas Barkdull; 1837, Hiram Shaffer, J. M. Goshorn; 1838, T. Dunn, W. C. Huestis; 1839, W. J. Wells, C. Sawyer; 1840, T. Dunn, W. R. Disbro; 1841, David Gray, W. R. Disbro; 1842, J. McMahon, T. Cooper; 1843, E. McClure; 1844, Thomas Barkdull, W. C. Pierce; 1845, Joseph Jones, W. C. Pierce; 1846, H. S. Bradley, L. S. Johnson; 1847, W. L. Harris; 1848, M. Rowley; 1850, E. S. Grumley; 1851, Jesse Durbin; 1852, Thomas J. Gard; 1853, J. A. Mudge; 1855-6, E. R. Jewitt; 1857, C. L. Foote; 1858, S. Mower; 1860, W. H. Seeley; 1862, J. A. Mudge; 1864, Thomas Barkdull; 1865, T. Hartley; 1866, A. R. Palmer; 1869, T. F. Hildreth; 1872, F. M. Searles; 1875, E. Persons; 1878, J. S. Brondwell.

1830—FIRST PRESBYTERIAN.

This church was organized on the 11th of February, 1830, by Rev. Messrs. A. H. Betts, Daniel W.

Lathrop and John Beach. It consisted of nine members—five males and four females. It was organized as a Congregational church, and taken under the care of the Presbytery of Huron. Rev. John Beach was the stated supply of this in connection with the church in Peru, sustained in part by the Home Missionary Society. He remained here until some time in 1831, when he removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan. The church was then supplied once in two weeks by Rev. E. Barber, who was the principal of the Huron Institute at Milan. His successor was Rev. Chapin R. Clark who commenced his labors in September, 1833, and continued them one year.

Rev. Stephen Saunders, of Milan, formerly a much esteemed pastor of a church in Salem, New York, afterwards supplied for a few months, until feeble health prevented his further labors. He died in the early part of the year 1835.

In the spring of 1835, the organization of the church was changed from Congregational to Presbyterian, and on March 7, 1836, an act of incorporation was obtained, giving the society a legal existence under the name of the First Presbyterian Church and congregation of Norwalk, Huron county, Ohio.

In March, 1835, on the suggestion of Rev. Mr. Judson, of Milan, an invitation was sent by the church to the Rev. Alfred Newton, of Connecticut, to visit them, with a view of being employed as pastor should there be mutual satisfaction. Having previously determined to make the west his field of labor, he was the more ready to receive the proposition with favor; and accordingly complied with the invitation. He commenced his labors here on the first Sunday in July, 1835. The church, then, was not only small in members, but weak in pecuniary resources. The whole taxable property of its members and supporters, according to the duplicate of that year, did not exceed ten thousand dollars. Aid had been received yearly from the Home Missionary Society, but when Mr. Newton came, the church became at once self-sustaining, and has always remained so.

In 1836, and again in 1837, Mr. Newton was unanimously invited to become the pastor of the church, but each time declined, wishing, before he became permanently settled, to see the issue of efforts which were then being made for the erection of a house of worship.

Services were held in the academy until its destruction by fire in February, 1836. Another place of worship was soon extemporized in the attic of a brick block on West Main street. It was an unfinished room, with naked rafters and walls. Unplaned boards without backs were the seats for the audience, and the pulpit was constructed of tea chests and dry goods boxes. With these primitive appointments, the church continued to hold its meetings on the Sabbath from February to June, when the old court house was secured.

This was the place of meeting for more than a year. Meanwhile the society was taking vigorous measures

to secure a building of its own. In 1837 a lot was procured and work begun. The church was finished about the first of July, 1838, at a cost of about ten thousand dollars, including lot and organ. It was dedicated on the 24th of July. On the same day, also, Mr. Newton was installed pastor by the presbytery.

The church worshiped in the building that was then dedicated for more than thirty years, but it was at length felt to be inadequate to their necessities. In 1867, a movement began in the congregation to secure a new house of worship. With various hindrances and discouragements, this was prosecuted until the completion, in 1870, of the present sanctuary, at a cost, with the lot, of about twenty-five thousand dollars. It was dedicated on the last Sabbath of July, 1870, with a debt of about five thousand dollars resting upon it. This proved to be a heavy burden upon the society. In January, 1878, a vigorous attempt was made to reduce it, and by the 1st of May, 1879, the last dollar had been paid, so that now the church is entirely free from debt. On the day of dedication Dr. Newton laid aside the official care of the church, which he had borne faithfully for thirty-five years.

In an historical discourse from which much of the preceding facts have been gathered, preached by Dr. Newton on concluding the twenty-fifth year of his ministry in the church, June 24, 1860, he was able to report that since the organization of the church the membership had increased from nine to one hundred and fifty, and that more than sixty thousand dollars had been contributed for religious and educational purposes at home and abroad. Since then the annual contributions have increased rather than diminished.

Dr. Newton, after his resignation, continued with the church, as pastor emeritus, until his death, which occurred the 31st of December, 1878. The funeral services were held in the church, on the second day of January, 1879. His presence was sadly missed, not in the church only, to which he had given the best years of his life, but throughout the whole community, which knew him only to esteem him for his many christian virtues. He rests from his labors, but his works follow him.

When Dr. Newton resigned the pastoral office, Rev. Henry H. Rice was unanimously elected to succeed him. He remained with the church for four years, resigning in the fall of 1874, and was soon after called to the Westminster church of Sacramento. For nearly a year the church was without a pastor. In the summer of 1875, Rev. James D. Williamson, the present pastor, was invited to supply the pulpit for a year. Afterwards he was invited to accept the office of pastor, and was installed October 3, 1876.

The church numbers at present two hundred and twenty-five members.

The Sabbath school was organized in 1835, and has always enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity. It has had but two superintendents since its organization, Messrs. C. L. Latimer and N. S. C. Perkins. The

former was superintendent till his removal to Cleveland in 1862, and the latter has held the position ever since. The school numbers about two hundred teachers and scholars.

Through much self-denial, the church has done its work, attained its present strength and secured its commodious and well appointed house of worship. If its growth has not been rapid, it has been constant, and the present condition of the church warrants the belief that the record of the future will be as good, at least, as that of the past.

1835—FIRST BAPTIST.

The first settlers of Huron county were of New England origin, and as soon as a home was established in the wilderness, and the immediate needs of the body supplied, their thoughts turned naturally to those spiritual blessings for which the soul longs, and they provided for their wants by the speedy organization of churches. Among these, several, holding Baptist sentiments, met September 20, 1818, and after consultation, constituted a church to be designated the Baptist Church of Ridgefield. Its constituent members were Asahel Morse, Lemuel Raymond, Francis H. Johnson and Clarissa Ann Morse. Others soon joined them by letter, and at the close of the first year their numbers had increased to twenty members, all living in what are now Huron and Erie counties. Their central place of meeting was in Ridgefield, in a school house on the ridge road, midway between Norwalk and Monroeville, but, as the members were widely scattered, meetings were held for sixteen years at different places, from Bloomingville, on the north, to Fairfield south, and from Norwalk to Bellevue. Itinerant pastors were expected to fill each appointment once a month. Success attended their labors and many were added to the church.

In 1832, twenty-nine were dismissed to form the first Baptist Church in Fairfield.

In January, 1835, a vote was passed locating permanently in Norwalk, and the name changed to "The First Baptist Church of Norwalk." They numbered at that time sixty-three members. Soon after this, members were dismissed to constitute churches in Bronson, Peru, Monroeville and Bellevue. Until this time they had met in school-houses, private houses and barns, but at the same meeting at which they voted to locate in Norwalk, they took measures to erect a house of worship, and appointed P. G. Smith, Theodore Baker, Timothy Baker, David Webb and Moses Kimball, trustees, to obtain a charter, purchase a lot and raise the necessary funds. The result of this action was the purchase of their present location, and the erection of a brick edifice, forty by sixty feet, at a cost of about four thousand dollars, which was dedicated June 26, 1836, by Rev. E. Tucker, of Buffalo. This house was occupied for worship just forty years, until July, 1876, when it was removed to give place to a larger and more elegant building.

The first settled pastorate of the church was made in 1821, and, recognizing the obligation to sustain constantly the preaching of the Word, they have since then had a succession of faithful laborers, whose efforts have been accompanied by the Divine blessing.

The Sabbath school interest early claimed attention, and a school was opened in 1820, and sustained for several seasons, in which the elementary branches of the English language were taught, in addition to instructions in Bible truths. Then the members united with others in union Sabbath schools, until the first church was dedicated, when a church school was organized, and has continued its work to the present time, without interruption. Its numbers now two hundred. During these years, five hundred and forty persons have been baptised into the fellowship of the church. In 1878 it numbered two hundred and fifty-seven. The whole number admitted to its membership is twelve hundred and eighteen. It has always been in full and hearty accord with all the benevolent and evangelizing activities of the age, and by an earnest co-operation with other organizations seeking the same object still endeavors to perform its part in bringing human hearts and lives into harmony with the Divine Law, and the perfect life of the great teacher, Christ.

1840—ST. PETER'S (CATHOLIC.)

St. Peter's Church was formed in 1840-1, by Rev. Freigang, with a congregation of about thirty families. In 1850, there were about eighty families, and in 1860, nearly one hundred and fifty. The church building was erected in 1840-1, at a cost of about seven hundred dollars, the land for its use being donated by Mr. Whyler who gave it in trust to James Meyers. In 1842-3, the building, proving too small for the accommodation of the congregation, was enlarged. The attendants of this church at this time came from Monroeville, Milan and the country surrounding Norwalk. Since its organization it has seen many changes, owing to the rapid growth and settlement of the country which was the cause of many of its members withdrawing and forming new churches.

In 1841-2, and until 1843, Rev. Mathew Alicks, a Redemptorist, was pastor, and finished the church begun by Rev. Freigang. In 1843, Rev. Frank Aloysius Bruner, a Passionist father, ministered to the church, and in 1844, Rev. Machboenf, from Sandusky and Tiffin, attended it. The same year, 1844, a deed of the church property was given to Bishop Purcell, by Jos. Meyer. From 1845 until 1851, the congregation was alternately attended by Rev. Machboenf and the Passionist fathers from Thompson, Ohio. From 1851 to 1853, it was attended by Rev. Charles Evrard. In 1853, Rev. Nicholas Bonpp came to the charge, and remained one year, after which the church was closed for thirteen months. In 1855, a mission was given by Bishop Rappe and Father Luhr. Three months afterwards,

Father Punchell arrived and remained, residing in the house belonging to St. Peter's, but attending St. Mary's until his death in 1869.

The dedication of the church took place in June, 1846, by Bishop Purcell, of Cincinnati. Rev. Machboenf, Peter Anton, John Wittmer and others being present. Rev. Manclere attended old St. Peter's until about August, 1860, boarding at a private house near the church, while the parsonage was occupied by Rev. Punchell. From September, 1860, until August, 1861, Rev. Dolweck was in charge; and from September, 1861, until October, 1865, Rev. X. Obermiller, with Rev. Dambach as assistant, was in charge.

A school house was built in 1858 and 1859, at a cost of about one thousand dollars. First attendance was about seventy-five to one hundred. The present attendance is about thirty-five.

In 1867-8, the people living in the village, separated from the church, and became a new and distinct congregation, being at first called New St. Peter's Church, but afterwards St. Paul's. Forty families remained with the old church. The separation took place during the pastorate of Father Magenhouse, who was succeeded by Father Kuhn, both churches being under his charge, also under charge of his successor Rev. Dechant. From the year 1872, each congregation had its own pastor. Rev. Drolshagen succeeded Rev. Dechant, and remained in charge of the old church until 1873, at which time Rev. G. Peter took charge of the pastorate, and remained until October, 1875, when Rev. Peter Kolopp, the present pastor, succeeded him. The present congregation numbers about thirty families.

In 1859-60, the English speaking portion of the congregation separated from the old church, and under Father Punchell, formed St. Mary's Church on Milan street. In 1864-5, those of the congregation who lived at Milan, left, and attended services at St. Peter's.

1851—LUTHERAN.

This church was organized June 29, 1851, the congregation at that time consisting of sixty-four voting members, under the pastorate of Rev. Vincens Klein. The lot was donated by A. J. Dewalt, and is located on Prospect street, east side, north of League street. The congregation commenced to build in 1852, and in 1854 completed a substantial brick church, at a cost of two thousand two hundred dollars. At a later period dissensions arose among the members of the congregation, which so reduced it in numbers that in 1874 there were but five voting members. In that year Rev. A. C. Ulrich, the present pastor, came to the church. In 1876 a parsonage was built at a cost of eight hundred and fifty dollars. Under his ministrations the church was destined to recover much that had been lost, and in 1879 the number of voting members was twenty-seven and the total number of confirmed members, ninety-eight. The congregation comprises (1879) one hundred and forty children and

adults. Sunday school is held regularly, under the superintendency of Wm. Himberger, and has from thirty-five to forty members. The church belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran joint synod of Ohio and adjacent States.

1859—ST. MARY'S (CATHOLIC).

St. Mary's church was built about the year 1859 under the supervision of Rev. Mr. Pontial, its first pastor, who was of French parentage. He died in 1860, before its completion, and was succeeded by Rev. John Quinn who finished the building, and continued in charge of the pastorate some four years. He in turn was succeeded by Rev. T. P. Thorpe, who officiated as its pastor four years. At the organization of the church about thirty families of that faith, comprising some one hundred and twenty persons, belonged to the congregation. In 1869 the congregation numbered four hundred, and in 1879 about five hundred persons. The cost of the church was some twelve thousand dollars, the funds for the building of which were raised in part by subscription, part by festivals, and a part from the church fund. The parochial residence, a two story brick building, costing three thousand dollars, was erected in 1863, under the supervision of Rev. John Quinn, the pastor in charge at that time. The present pastor is Rev. T. F. Halley, who has been in charge over eleven years.

A substantial school house was erected on the church property in 1865, by Rev. T. P. Thorpe. Its cost was four thousand dollars. At its organization the school had an attendance of about eighty, but as time passed and the congregation increased in numbers it was found necessary to erect another building to accommodate all. A site consisting of four lots on the corner of League and State streets was secured, and a school house built, costing, inclusive of all, about eight thousand dollars. The funds for building the school house and purchasing the lots were obtained in the same manner as for building the church. This church is also possessed of two lots on Milan street, which are valued at eight hundred dollars.

1864.—ADVENT CHRISTIAN.*

The commencement of this church was in the autumn of 1842, by a mutual assembling together of persons from the various churches, and others in the town and vicinity, interested in the doctrine of the speedy personal coming of Christ, for worship, and more particularly to examine the Bible upon this subject. It was not the design then, or for a length of time thereafter, to organize another religious denomination; but as they advanced in knowledge of Bible testimony, they became more and more confirmed in its truthfulness, and as the churches refused to examine the subject, or tolerate its introduction into their meetings, they were driven to this alternative, or abandon the doctrine. This was the true cause of its organization.

*Prepared by Prudden Alling, Esq., two weeks before his death.

Amongst the persons who took a prominent part in the meetings of that and the two succeeding years, the following may be mentioned, then residing in Norwalk and Bronson, viz: James D. Knapp, Prudden Alling and family, Simeon B. Sturges, Era Clark and family, Abel Herrick and family, John Covell and family, Edmund Mead and wife, Paul G. Smith, Nathan L. Thayer and wife, Daniel Boon, Ager B. Hoyt and wife, Ira Curtiss and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Boss. In later years others from the various churches and by conversions from the outside world, became interested in this and kindred doctrines of the Bible peculiar to this people, and united with them in worship. Their distinctive doctrines are these:

1. They believe in the personal coming and reign of Christ on the earth during the millennium, as taught in the twentieth chapter of Revelation.

2. At the beginning of which period the righteous dead will be raised, the living saints changed from mortal to immortality, and will reign with Christ during the thousand years.

3. They now believe the intermediate state between death and the resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked, is that of unconsciousness.

4. They believe, as the wicked do not lay hold of Christ as their life-giver, and neglect to seek for immortality, they fail of that attribute, and consequently will be raised up at the end of the one thousand years to a mortal life, and will fall under the power of the second death, being the wages of sin, which will be an extinction of being, and eternal in its results.

5. Some believe that as all the family of man that have "died in Adam" will be raised up in the resurrection to another life, that all who have lived and died in unavoidable ignorance of a saving knowledge of God's plan of salvation, in this or previous dispensations, will then have the opportunity of hearing of Him who died for all and tasted death for every man, and of accepting or rejecting Christ for themselves; then their due time for hearing of Him will have come.

6. The belief in or the rejection of these doctrines or any part of them, is not made a test of fellowship. Their only test is Christian character.

7. Their creed is simply this: "We, whose names are hereto attached, do hereby associate ourselves together as the Church of Christ in Norwalk and vicinity, and agree to take the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice." This was adopted January 18, 1863.

8. They practice immersion, after believing, alone as baptism.

9. They organized themselves into a body corporate August 3, 1864.

After perfecting an organization they purchased from M. A. Duntun the building and lot formerly owned by the Methodist church, on Seminary street, for eight hundred dollars. A part of the lot was afterwards sold to T. R. Strong for one hundred and

twenty-five dollars. The building was repaired and seated at a cost of about three hundred dollars, and was occupied as a house of worship until the winter of 1872-73, when it was found so illy adapted to their wants that it was resolved to make an effort to rebuild. A subscription was circulated, and about one thousand four hundred dollars obtained. It was thereupon resolved to rebuild or remodel the whole structure except the frame. The following building committee was appointed for that purpose, and were instructed not to run the church into debt, viz: Simeon F. Rogers, David C. Jefferson, James D. Knapp, Orange Seaman and Hiram Dillingham. The building was duly finished, and was dedicated by Elder Frank Burr, of Chicago, on the 29th of June, 1873. It has been used as then furnished to the present time, as a house of worship. There is one peculiarity in its heating arrangement worthy of notice, which is this: It has a tight basement, with two large stoves placed in the south side, and with pipes running through its entire length under the two outside rows of seats, with two or more registers in each seat, opened at will, for the rise of the heat. This plan is found to work admirably for warming the feet and heating the building. In addition to this there are two long box tubes set under the back seat and covered with wires, placed even with the floor, each about twelve by twenty inches in size, and extending down to near the bottom of the basement, which creates a downward draft for the cold air. This keeps up a constant circulation and prevents a fetid atmosphere, as is often experienced in the ordinary mode of heating churches and other buildings. The experiment has proved a success worthy the attention of other churches erecting similar edifices.

From the beginning up to the present time its history has been more variable than is usually witnessed in other denominations, caused in part by the peculiarity of their doctrines, and partly from this other fact, that with them were associated members from nearly every other denomination in the land, all tintured, more or less, with their earlier educational biases. Since 1842 their meetings have been kept up in town or vicinity, on Sunday, and usually prayer meetings once a week. A part of this time they were favored with ministering brethren, who were formerly members of the orthodox denominations, viz: Presbyterian, Congregational, Baptist, Freewill Baptist, Methodist and others, amongst whom may be mentioned Elders Charles Fitch, J. B. Cook, Thomas Carlton, N. M. Needham, J. M. Judson, L. P. Judson, Butler Morley, Mr. Boggs, Frank Burr, Cyrus Mendenhall, Mr. Surgerson and D. T. Call, their present minister. Also, Dr. G. W. Stetson, who was with them some years, and Jonas Wardell. Their irregular ministry was always a hindrance, both in the advancement of the church in members and spirituality. Their members have varied from twenty up to one hundred or more. Their present membership is about sixty, embracing some living at a distance.

1867—CONGREGATIONAL.

This Church was organized in the court house at Norwalk, December 19, 1867. For several months previous, preaching services, sustained by those of Congregational preferences, had been held in the court house on Sunday afternoons, under the ministrations of Rev. A. S. Walsh. The church was organized with fifty-four members. These were mostly drawn from the Congregational Church of Bronson township, which was thereby disbanded. A number of them, however, were Congregationalists of Norwalk, who had until then united with no church in that place, and a very few were members of other churches but of congregational antecedents or preferences, who now availed themselves of this opportunity of becoming identified with that denomination.

Soon after the organization, the court house being no longer at their command, the Congregationalists were very cordially invited by the Protestant Episcopal Church to occupy its house of worship. The offer was gladly accepted, and services were held there Sunday afternoons until spring, when it was found more convenient to return to the court house, now once more available, which was used from this time until October, 1869, from which time, until the completion of the new church, the Baptist Church was occupied by invitation.

In April, 1868, the lot on which the church now stands was purchased. It was occupied at the time by an old hotel called the Ganff House, which was under lease, and did not pass into the hands of the church for a considerable time. When it did, the prayer meetings, which had been held at the residences of Mrs. Henry Brown, Mrs. Hoyt, and in rooms rented by the church on Seminary street, were removed thither. The Sunday school was also first organized in the old hotel, and, when that building was removed to make room for the church, it was held by invitation in the Baptist Church till a place was made for it in the new building. The church as it now stands was completed early in 1871, and was dedicated February 2d of that year. It has proven a pleasant home to those who have occupied it, but they have not yet forgotten the courtesies received from sister churches, when they were yet pilgrims and strangers on the earth.

The first superintendent of the Sunday school was Mr. Charles Seger. The first deacons of the church were James Rowcliff, John Hagaman and Frederick Upson. The first trustees were Henry Brown, James Rowcliff, Thomas Hagaman, C. W. Manahan and N. H. Pebbles. The first pastor after Mr. Walsh was Rev. C. E. Wright, and his successors have been Rev. J. W. Cracraft, D.D., and Rev. J. W. Cowan. The present membership is about two hundred and thirty. The Sunday school is under the superintendency of Mr. Frank B. Foster, and has a membership of about one hundred and thirty-five. The cost of the church lot was four thousand dollars; the cost of the church building, twelve thousand dollars.

1868—ST. PAUL'S. (CATHOLIC.)

The German Catholic inhabitants of Norwalk, belonged, until the year 1868, to St. Peter's church, on West Main street, but as their number increased they wished to have a church nearer the centre of the beautiful village of Norwalk. They therefore bought two lots on Hester street, on which they built a school house, the first story being used for school and teacher's dwelling, and the second for church purposes. Rev. Father A. Magenham superintended in buying the lots and building the house. The reverend father, after a time of hard work, was transferred to Mansfield the 1st of September, 1869. Rev. J. Kuhn was his successor, and was followed on August 20, 1871, by Rev. Father M. Dechant. The purchase of lots on Hester street had been a great loss to the congregation, on account of their unfavorable situation, and so it happened that pastor and congregation came to an understanding to buy a more favorable location. Their choice was the property belonging to W. O. Parker, consisting of lots forty and forty-one on Main street. A committee was appointed to buy said lots, which they did for seven thousand dollars, which was a high price for the poor congregation to pay, but was cheap on account of the beauty and good location, for the greater part of the members of St. Paul's live on the neighboring streets. Previous to this, there was no priest's house, but now Father Dechant removed into the house on the new purchase, formerly occupied by W. O. Parker. On the 10th of December, 1873, Father Dechant was transferred to St. Alphons' church, Fern, four miles southwest from Norwalk, and Rev. A. Eilert was his successor.

A few months before the generous bankruptcy commenced, wages were cut down and money became scarce, but thanks to the general sacrifices of its members, the debts, amounting to nearly eight thousand dollars, were very rapidly reduced. At the same time, the cemetery, bought a few years previously by Father Kuhn, and situated on South West street, was improved. In August, 1875, a comfortable dwelling house for the teacher, was built, at a cost of one thousand four hundred dollars. On September 1, 1876, that unpleasant place on Hester street was sold for five thousand dollars. During the same month a large, new school house was commenced on the lately purchased property, and was so far finished at Christmas that divine service was held in the first story, and in the second story school could be held. The cost of the new edifice, including the bell, pipe organ for the church part, and other improvements, amounted to ten thousand dollars.

The number of members of St. Paul's has, within eleven years, more than doubled, increasing from fifty to one hundred and thirty families. To two school classes a third one had to be added in the fall of 1873, about one hundred and eighty children attending them.

The revenues, during the past five years, amounted

to twenty-six thousand dollars, of which eleven thousand dollars were paid on debts, the balance being used for current expenses. As there is reason to hope that times are getting better, the people will try as soon as possible to pay all outstanding debts. As soon as this is accomplished they contemplate building a magnificent church on the corner of Main and Wooster streets.

At the present time (spring of 1879), the Sunday school contains two hundred and fifty members.

1869—UNIVERSALIST.

On December 1, 1867, religious services were commenced by Rev. Mr. Canfield, of Peru, who preached in the court house Sunday evenings for one year. The first of the year 1868, Whittlesey Hall was secured for the purpose of holding services, and a Sunday school was organized with four pupils and four teachers. At the close of this year the hall of the Sons of Temperance was rented and fitted up for church purposes. Sunday school was held in the morning and preaching in the evening. In the month of January of this year (1869) a church was organized with twenty-seven members. In 1872 the present church edifice on West Main street, a beautiful structure, with all the modern conveniences, was dedicated December 8. The building cost, complete, with the grounds, twenty thousand dollars. In building the church liberal assistance was obtained from friends of the cause outside of the church and congregation: outside, indeed, of the township. Two members of the Peru church, R. Eaton and Fredrus Simmons contributed each one thousand to the ten thousand which it had been resolved should be raised before commencing the work of building. Others who may be considered "outsiders," although friends of the cause, were liberal donors. Mr. W. A. Mack and F. Sears, of Norwalk, were among the most liberal contributors, both being members of the church: the former having, in addition to his subscription to the building fund, donated, at the cost of two thousand dollars, the fine pipe organ now used. At the time of the dedication of the church, December 8, 1872, there was a debt of some six thousand dollars resting on the building. Over four thousand dollars of this debt was raised at that time. Mr. J. H. Buehtel, of Akron, was present at the dedication, and contributed five hundred dollars of the sum. Many others also gave liberally of their means toward extinguishing the debt. A few years later an effort was made by the friends of the church, assisted by Revs. Canfield and Wilson, to raise the balance of the debt, which proved successful, and the church is now free from debt.

Since its organization, the church has had three settled pastors—Rev. H. L. Canfield, who for a year or two after its inception preached one-half of the time in Peru in the morning, and in Norwalk in the afternoon. He finally removed to Norwalk, and continued as pastor of the congregation some three

years, preaching on Sundays both morning and afternoon. Rev. E. Hathaway was then employed, and remained about three years, when he resigned, and the present pastor, Rev. C. S. Vincent was called to the charge.

The church has met with steady prosperity from its organization, until at the present time, 1879, it has a membership of one hundred and ten, with a Sunday-school of one hundred pupils, and owns its property clear of debt, supporting preaching services every Sunday.

1869—WARREN CHAPEL.

In the fall of 1869 a class-meeting was instituted among the colored people of Norwalk by Mr. Ray Harvey, who received a license as a local preacher, and held meetings about six months, when work was commenced on a house of worship. After the frame was raised a severe storm of wind removed it from the foundation and caused some additional expense to that contemplated in building. The church was completed in 1869, and was dedicated in the spring of 1870. After its dedication it was reorganized, and, dissensions arising, Mr. Harvey withdrew from the connection. At its reorganization it was incorporated as Warren Chapel of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It has had regular services each Sunday since its formation, part of the time by local preachers, and part of the time by the missionary who has charge of this, and the missions of Sandusky and Fremont. It has at present a membership of about twenty-four, and a Sunday school of twenty members. Rev. George Stevens is the present missionary. The chapel is situated on Cline street, and cost about one thousand dollars.

BUSINESS IN 1879.

The following is believed to be a correct showing of the number and different kinds of business now being prosecuted in Norwalk:

DRY GOODS.—Manahan, Taber & Co., (C. W. Manahan, B. C. Taber, and H. C. Johnson,) corner of Main street and Whittlesey avenue. H. E. Smith & Co., (H. E. Smith, W. A. Poyer, East Main. F. D. Taylor, corner Main and Railroad avenue. Wooster & Patrick (H. M. Wooster, M. C. Patrick) corner Main and Railroad avenue. C. E. Marsh & Co., (C. E. Marsh, S. B. Pease) corner Main and Whittlesey avenue. Theodore Williams, West Main.

GENTS' CLOTHING AND FURNISHING GOODS.—Manahan, Taber & Co., corner Main and Whittlesey ave. William Suhr, W. Main. Reming & Gandolf, E. Main. G. Jacobson, W. Main. E. Peters & Son, W. Main. E. Windecker, E. Main. William Schaefer, Millan street.

MILLINERS' AND LADIES' GOODS.—S. C. Kinsley, E. Main. Mrs. S. G. Brown, E. Main. Mrs. Sherman, W. Main. Mrs. Robbins, W. Main. Mrs. E. Roth, E. Main. Mrs. Demorest, W. Seminary. Mrs. Mann, W. Seminary. Mrs. Pritchard, Whittlesey avenue. Louisa Smith, Whittlesey avenue. Judson & Webster, Whittlesey avenue. Miss B. Coe, Whittlesey avenue. Mrs. Snyder, Whittlesey Avenue.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Husted Bros., S. M. Fuller, C. Ohlemacher, J. A. McMillan, Oscar Townsend, James Seeley, William Moshier, George Stafford, E. Main. D. E. Cole, W. Main. Thomas Azus, Benedict avenue. J. Kavanaugh, Whittlesey avenue. M. Suydam, Railroad avenue. William Ashboolt & Son, Fisher & Bloxam, Seminary street.

JEWELERS.—Samuel Willifson, O. G. Carter, C. L. Murry, C. L. Matthews, East Main.

GROCCERS.—Moore & Co., John Cheasey, E. Main. W. C. Hayek, J. A. Jones, Benedict avenue. J. A. Ryan, G. Fergel, State street.

J. Hunt, William Indlekofer, Milan street. C. H. Hoyt, Mitchell & Rowland, A. D. Harley, H. F. Barton, W. Main. T. King, P. Comstock, C. H. Wines & Co., J. P. Link, C. F. Butler & Co., C. R. Bostwick, J. E. Lotts, Boss & Eastman, E. Main.

DRUGS.—T. S. Wooster, W. O. Abbott & Sons, Wooster & Patrick, E. Main. D. D. Benedict, W. R. Little & Son, H. T. Barton, W. Main.

HATTERS.—J. Miller, W. O. Abbott, E. Main.

MEATS.—Wheaton & Hoyt, M. Blatz, H. Troendle, C. Mulholland, E. Main. Honsinger & Newman, Seaton Bros., W. Main. William H. Snyder, Benedict avenue.

CONFECTIONERY, CIGARS AND TOBACCO.—H. C. Morris, M. Holderman, G. T. Brady, E. Main. C. Chisholm, W. Main.

FURNITURE.—House & Arnold, Hund & Kiefer, F. W. Boalt, E. Main. William Schafer & Bros., W. Main.

HARDWARE, STOVES AND TINWARE.—F. A. Powers, George Lambkins, Wooster & Patrick, D. Higgins, E. Main. W. R. Little & Son, C. W. Manahan, Martin & Carabin, W. Main.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—J. A. Nichols, Benedict avenue.

PRODUCE AND COMMISSION.—W. A. Poyer, E. Main; grain warehouse and elevator on railroad. Bowen & Tuttle, E. Main; grain warehouse and elevator on railroad. A. Kribbs, Wooster street, green fruits, potatoes, etc. J. Cheeney, E. Main, butter, eggs, dried fruits, etc. E. D. Jordan, W. Seminary, grain and feed.

LIVERY AND SALE STABLES.—E. H. Draper, Seminary st. R. M. Paulhind, Railroad avenue; the first established in Northern Ohio. C. Morgan, railroad avenue. J. M. Harkness, E. Main. M. Graves, Hester street.

BARBERS.—J. S. Minor, C. Naiberger, George McGee, H. Mulhaupt, E. Main. M. Vancamp, Benedict avenue. J. Hawkins, W. Main.

HOTELS.—St. Charles, Charles Stratton, proprietor, W. Main street. Central, Gus. Rose, proprietor, Whittlesey avenue. Cottage, Silas Hill, proprietor, Railroad avenue. Bush House, J. W. Bush, proprietor, S. Hester street.

MARBLE DEALERS.—R. R. King, Huron st. J. T. Davis, E. Main st.

DOCTORS.—E. C. Morrill, T. Gill, A. N. Read, J. B. Ford, B. Babcock, J. R. Whitwood, A. L. Osborn, S. W. Green, J. L. Babcock, T. E. Pray.

DENTISTS.—A. Terry, S. P. Hildreth, M. C. Furlong, J. W. Peasley.

SALOONS.—A. Riester, Louis Webber, P. Ludwig, S. Stultz, P. Troendle, J. Miller, N. Bachman, F. Becker, J. Fezenger, F. Casper, A. Brobst, E. Roth, J. Fitz, H. Mulhaupt, J. W. Lee.

UNDERTAKERS.—Tom Hay, Benedict avenue. M. L. Chapple, E. Main.

LAWYERS.—O. Bailey, admitted June 4, 1862. G. W. Corwin. C. H. Gallup, admitted April 12, 1858; was prosecuting attorney for Huron county, Mich., from 1860 to 1870, and member of the Michigan legislature from 1866 to 1868. Griffin & Williamson, (Alvin B. Griffin, admitted April 18, 1870, at Norwalk, Ohio; has been clerk of courts. John A. Williamson, admitted May, 1865, at Albany, New York; present member of legislature.) William L. Harrod, admitted March 1858. O. E. Kellogg. T. H. Kellogg, C. L. & H. L. Kennan. G. W. Knapp, has been prosecuting attorney. L. C. Laylin, present prosecuting attorney. Jay Patrick, admitted 1851. E. A. Pray, admitted 1875; present corporation solicitor. Franklin Sawyer, admitted July 27, 1847; has been member of the legislature, register in bankruptcy and prosecuting attorney. Gideon T. Stewart, admitted August 14, 1854; has been county auditor. Charles B. Stickney, admitted August 1, 1844; has been probate judge and mayor of Norwalk. T. R. Strong, admitted June, 1845. L. D. Stratton, admitted May, 1858. William H. Sprague, proprietor of the commercial and law school; admitted September 19, 1873. George R. Walker, admitted April, 1855. William B. Woolverton, admitted 1870; has been prosecuting attorney. C. P. Wickham, admitted April, 1858; has been prosecuting attorney. S. A. Wildman, admitted April, 1870. D. I. Young, admitted 1845. S. M. Young. Henry Brown, has been county clerk; now out of practice. John Kennan, now out of practice.

ARTISTS.—George Butt, photographer, International Photograph Enlarging Company, E. Main. F. B. Foster, photographer, W. Main. A. P. Couch, portrait painter, E. Main.

MILLS.—G. M. Cleveland & Co., Mill street, 4 run stones, steam. Goodnow & Warner, E. Main, 4 run stones, steam. G. Jacobbs, Medina st., circular saw mill, steam. E. Jacobbs, Enterprise road, upright saw-mill, water.

DRAYMEN.—J. E. Strickland, J. Harley, D. Lee, G. Holmes, J. McGinn, J. Smith, M. Saladine.

NEWSPAPERS.—*Norwalk Reflector*, Wickham & Gibbs, proprietors, W. Main st. *Huron County Chronicle*, Finley & DeMds, proprietors, E. Main st. *Norwalk Experiment*, W. W. Redfield, proprietor, W. Main. *Norwalk Democrat*, Martin Ruf, proprietor, E. Main.

NEWS DEPOT.—Baxter Trevor, Gallup block, E. Main.

LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—Rooms in Gallup block, E. Main.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES.—Rooms No. 6 and 8, Gallup Block, E. Main st. Room at railroad depot, Whittlesey avenue.

POST OFFICE.—Frederick C. Wickham, postmaster, Gallup block, E. Main st.

MANUFACTURERS.—Lewis Morehouse, Union Foundry, plows, plow points and general job foundry, corner Main and Milan streets. A. E. Warner, Empire Iron Works, corner of Main and Medina streets, manufacture wood-sawing machines, general repairing shop and foundry. D. B. Kuhns, Eagle Iron Works, East Seminary street, boiler repair shop and job foundry. M. P. Smith, corner Jefferson and State streets, general machine repairing. N. H. Pebbles, carriage making and repairing, corner Monroe and Railroad avenue; warehouses corner Seminary st., and Railroad avenue. J. H. Gross, carriage making and repairing, corner Seminary st. and Benedict avenue. E. S. Andrews, carriage making, E. Seminary st. William Foreman, harness maker, E. Main street. H. Terry, tannery, Corwin street. J. N. Watrous, harness maker; Joseph Gibbs, harness maker; S. C. Crawford, rubber bucket pumps; W. C. Corant, carriage trimmer; E. S. Andrews, carriage maker; C. H. Fuller, blacksmith; Lee & Bush, blacksmith; Thomas Galliger, blacksmith; P. Hogan, blacksmith, E. Seminary st. D. B. Ward, blacksmith, Corwin street. M. Kean, blacksmith, Benedict avenue. Gilson & Lawrence, lumber yard; Brown & Smith, clowns; C. W. Smith, turner; O. C. Pearl, book bindery; F. M. Snaveley, carriage painter; F. Stewart, dowel pins; Himmelwright Bros., painters; J. Sharp, carpenter; William Bailey, carpenter and builder; William Baker, tinker; S. Stultz, blacksmith; William Shubert, carpenter and builder; Beard & Cortwright, fanning mills, Benedict avenue. William Cleveland, guns and gun repairing, Railroad avenue. H. P. Dillingham, repair shop, Seminary street. Willoughby & Smith, sash, doors and blinds, Benedict avenue. Fisher & Bloxam, ladies' fine shoes, Nicolls' block, corner Seminary and Benedict avenues. S. W. Owen, cooper shop and heading factory, Medina street. John Collins, cooper shop, Marshall street. J. W. Lintsey, painter, Whittlesey avenue. F. Rice, painter, Railroad avenue.

BANKS.

The first bank in Huron county, and the first one in this portion of the State, was organized under a special act of the legislature in 1832, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. Ebenezer Lane was elected president, Martin Bentley, cashier. The directors were Ebenezer Lane, Timothy Baker, George Hollister, Daniel Hamilton, Picket Latimer and Moses Kimball. Business was begun by the bank in February, 1833. In 1834, John Gardiner was elected first clerk, and Geo. Mygatt succeeded Mr. Bentley as cashier. Mr. Mygatt was succeeded in 1836 by J. R. Finn, in which year the business was closed up by paying back the capital stock to the original shareholders. The franchise was sold to Mr. Burr Higgins and his associates.

The Norwalk Branch of the State Bank of Ohio was organized in the spring of 1847, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, which was afterward increased to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The directors were J. P. Reznor, Timothy Baker, John M. Boalt, John Gardiner, and John R. Osborn. Mr. Reznor was elected president, and John Gardiner cashier and active manager. In 1850, Mr. Timothy Baker succeeded Mr. Reznor as president. For eighteen years the bank did a successful business, and, notwithstanding large losses consequent upon the panic of 1856, closed up its business in 1865, returning the capital stock to the shareholders and paying a dividend during the time of two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars.

NORWALK NATIONAL.

The Norwalk National bank, to some extent the successor of the Branch of the State bank, was organized in March, 1865, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Mr. John Gardiner, Amos Woodard, John Tift, C. A. Preston and Timothy Baker,

were the first directors. The vacancies caused by the deaths of Mr. Preston and Mr. Baker have been filled by C. W. Millan and Theodore Williams. Mr. Gardiner was elected president, and Mr. Millen cashier. The condition of the bank will be seen by the last report as given:

Report of the condition of the Norwalk National bank, at Norwalk, in the State of Ohio, at the close of business April 4, 1879:

RESOURCES	
Loans and discounts.....	\$127,046 68
Overdrafts.....	582 55
United States bonds to secure circulation.....	100,000 00
Due from approved reserve agents.....	24,767 53
Due from other National banks.....	6,323 95
Due from State banks and bankers.....	679 65
Real estate, furniture and fixtures.....	6,500 00
Current expenses and taxes paid.....	1,256 63
Bills of other banks.....	2,200 00
Fractional currency (including nickels).....	157 16
Specie (including gold treasury certificates).....	17,265 18
Legal tender notes.....	27,500 00
Redemption fund with United States treasurer (5 per cent. of circulation).....	4,500 00
Total.....	\$319,251 28

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in.....	\$100,000 00
Surplus fund.....	20,000 00
Undivided profits.....	4,291 74
National bank notes outstanding.....	80,325 10
Individual deposits subject to check.....	\$69,587 66
Demand certificates of deposit.....	45,977 25
	111,844 81
Due to other National banks.....	2,776 84
Due to State banks and bankers.....	233 09
Total.....	\$319,251 25

FIRST NATIONAL.

The private banking company of Baker, Kittredge & Company, began business in December, 1857, and continued to the 1st of February, 1864. The company was composed of Geo. G. Baker, Wm. F. Kittredge, Henry Brown and D. A. Baker.

This company was succeeded by the First National Bank of Norwalk, which immediately began business with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. The directors were G. G. Baker, W. F. Kittredge, Henry Brown, D. A. Baker, W. O. Parker, Fred Sears and J. C. Curtiss, Jr. Mr. G. G. Baker was elected president, and Mr. Kittredge, cashier. The present directors are D. A. Baker, W. O. Parker, H. Brown, G. M. Cleveland and D. A. Baker, Jr. D. A. Baker, president; D. A. Baker, Jr., cashier.

Report of the condition of the First National Bank of Norwalk, at Norwalk, Ohio, at the close of business April 4, 1879:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$189,193 10
Overdrafts.....	2,126 03
United States bonds to secure circulation.....	50,000 00
United States bonds on hand.....	19,860 00
Due from approved reserve agents.....	17,447 12
Due from other National banks.....	10,054 75
Due from State banks and bankers.....	3,789 08
Furniture and fixtures.....	2,000 00
Current expenses and taxes paid.....	1,621 53
Checks and other cash items.....	2,133 54
Bills of other banks.....	5,000 00
Fractional currency (including nickels).....	153 43
Specie.....	11,032 58
Legal tender notes.....	12,500 00
Redemption fund with United States treasurer (15 per cent. of circulation).....	2,250 00
Total.....	\$229,931 16

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in.....	\$50,000 00
Surplus fund.....	21,500 00
Undivided profits.....	3,812 18
National bank notes outstanding.....	40,540 00
Individual deposits subject to check.....	\$105,016 10
Demand certificates of deposit.....	4,920 00
Time certificates of deposit.....	2,220 00
	112,175 10
Due to other National banks.....	658 82
Due to State banks and bankers.....	315 06
Total.....	\$229,931 16

RAILROAD SHOPS.

The most important of the mechanical industries connected with Norwalk are the shops of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad. They were constructed by the Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland Railroad, which was a Norwalk enterprise incorporated in 1850. The commissioners met at the court house September 24, 1850, and elected the first board of directors as follows: Charles L. Boalt, president; Timothy Baker, George S. Baker, E. B. Perkins, Alvin Coles, Frederick Chapman and Matthew Johnson.

The road was opened January 24, 1853, forming the last links in the chain of roads from Chicago to New York and Boston. It was a financial success, being built considerably within the estimated cost, and returning to its stock holders a dividend of five per cent. six months after the opening of the road. After various consolidations with rival and connecting companies it came under the control of the present company.

The various shops are substantially constructed, mostly of brick, and occupy about fifteen acres of land at the head of Railroad avenue, between Huron street and Whittlesey avenue. The total valuation of the property situated within the corporation, as appearing on the tax duplicate, is five hundred and ninety-five thousand nine hundred and fifty-two dollars. Nearly seven hundred men are employed who are engaged in the construction and repairing of cars and locomotives. In the past four years six of the largest and best express locomotives owned by the company have been turned out at a cost of forty-four thousand dollars.

In connection with the shops, a class of those employees who desire (attendance being compulsory on the apprentices), are taught drafting, a school being maintained by the company and instruction furnished free of expense to the scholars.

By reference to the last annual report of the directors, it will be seen that twenty-five million six hundred and eighty-three thousand seven hundred and thirty-one pounds of freight was shipped and forty-two thousand seven hundred and forty-one passengers taken from this station. The amount of money paid out to employees the greater part of which finds its way into Norwalk markets, is upwards of eighteen thousand dollars per month. These facts taken with that, that they possess six hundred thousand dollars taxable property, gives one an idea of the influence that they

have on the prosperity of Norwalk and of the gloom in which the last curl of smoke floating away from the stacks would enshroud the town.

GASLIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

The Norwalk Gaslight and Coke Company was organized May 6, 1859, by C. L. Boalt, John Tift, G. H. Safford, E. A. Coon and W. O. Parker, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars. Mr. C. L. Boalt was elected president; Theo. Williams, treasurer and secretary. The stock of the company has always been a good investment and is now worth a considerable premium and cannot be bought in market.

STONE QUARRY.

The stone quarry of Wm. Perrin, on Rattlesnake Creek, has been worked for forty years. The stone obtained is a hard blue sandstone and is now found fifty feet below the surface of a very superior quality. The stone used in the construction of most of the bridges and buildings throughout the county was obtained at this quarry.

The quarry on "Reed's Creek," near the south line of the town, was the first one opened, and from there the stone was obtained for the first buildings in Norwalk in 1818. It is upon the old James Cole farm. The stone is of a superior quality for building purposes, and a very durable flagging stone is obtained near the surface.

DAUNTLESS MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Among the most interesting and valuable industries of the place, that of the Dauntless manufacturing company stands prominent.

The factory is an extensive brick pile on Whittlesey avenue, just north of the Lake Shore railroad. The original buildings were constructed in 1852, by Mr. N. S. C. Perkins, and have quite a history of their own. They were occupied by him for a number of years in the manufacturing of steam saw mills and engines. At the completion of the railroad, the eastern factories introduced their machines, which they were able, with their greater facilities, to offer at prices with which inland factories could not compete, necessitating an abandonment of the business, and working havoc with this and other kindred industries through the northwest. But the road, in turn, brought the desired facilities, and again the fires were kindled and the welcome din and rattle of machinery were revived.

Early in 1860 the buildings were enlarged to their present size. The furor and excitement created by that wondrous piece of American mechanism the sewing machine, were at fever heat.

That the machine was, as yet, in a crude state, was apparent to skilled eyes and inventive brains. With many others, Mr. Perkins turned his attention in this direction. The factory might aptly be designated a nursery of sewing machines. The first machine constructed on the premises was the single thread

"Gardner," being the first sewing machine manufactured in the west; and subsequently the "Little Giant," which survives to our day as the "Common Sense."

These were succeeded by the "Moore," which became such a formidable rival to the best of the eastern machines that the huge monopoly called the "Sewing Machine Combination," determined to crush it out, and did so. The next machine manufactured by Mr. Perkins was one of his own invention, and bearing his own name. In 1864 Mr. W. A. Mack, inventor of the Domestic, called in with his designs. Mr. Perkins' experience enabled him to discern its advantages, and a partnership was immediately formed for its construction. The Domestic became widely and popularly known, and was manufactured for a number of years by the firm, until it was absorbed by a powerful eastern company. After many experiments and trials, the present machine, appropriately named the "Dauntless," was produced, and in 1875 a company was organized for its manufacture. The machine has met with splendid success, and has given to Norwalk a wide-spread notoriety.

In the present time of business depression, the number employed has not filled the capacity of the factory; but we are glad to state that the merits of the Dauntless are being appreciated and that the orders received are compelling the company to crowd in new forces, which will tend to enliven the city and add greater significance to its history.

EUREKA FANNING MILL.

The Eureka fanning mill, patented and owned by Mr. B. Cortrite, is manufactured by him at his shops on East Main street, the shops and store houses occupying about two acres of ground adjoining the tracks of the L. S. & M. S. Railroad. The factory is run by steam power, the different parts of the mill being made and stored ready for putting together. The mill has been very largely manufactured and has met with universal approval—being extensively used through Ohio and the West.

LUMBER YARD.

The lumber yard and planing mill of D. E. Morehouse on Medina street, is one of the oldest of Norwalk's industries. Mr. Morehouse began business at the present site in 1835, and has continued it with success. In 1865, the mill and stock were almost entirely destroyed by fire. The mill was immediately re-built and the yard re-stocked. Mr. Morehouse handles upwards of two million feet of lumber annually, which he has ample facilities for storing, together with a proportionate amount of lath and shingles. In connection with the planing mill, which is a large two-story brick, are substantial buildings for sash, door and blind manufacturing, which are worked to their full capacity. The many specimens of the work which adorn our fine residences and business blocks testifying to the quality

and the appreciation of home productions. For the accommodation of smaller manufactures, Mr. Morehouse has convenient rooms supplied with power. They were occupied in 1875 by a firm manufacturing harness hames, and afterwards as a washboard factory.

For a number of years previous to the present occupation, extending back to 1834, this site was occupied by Mr. G. T. Morehouse as a brickyard and foundry. The brick used in the greater part of the earlier dwelling houses and business blocks, were made there.

PEDRO BED.

The Pedro Cot Bed was invented by Mr. O. A. White, one of Norwalk's well-known business men. It is now manufactured by Messrs. White & I. W. Bostwick.

The Pedro, like many other of the most substantial and solid comforts afforded to man, comes to him in an unpretentious form. In keeping with the production, the factory on Benedict avenue is plain but most convenient. The many merits of the bed have already won for it a firm demand among the staple productions of the country, and will undoubtedly develop another large and attractive industry.

TOBACCO FACTORY.

The Norwalk tobacco factory occupies the large three-story brick block fronting on West Main street, and extends in the form of an L around the brick block of C. E. Newman to Hester street, making one of the most roomy and commodious factories in this town. It was started in April, 1873, by Mr. F. B. Case, and contains all the various departments for storing and preparing the different brands of chewing and smoking tobacco, and affords employment to about sixty men. The fact that Mr. Case manufactures on an average four hundred thousand pounds annually, shows that we do not all altogether concur with "little Robert Read" in his opinion on the "filthy weed."

GAGER & BALDWIN'S HORSE-RADISH MILL.

Since the year 1876 Norwalk has had in her limits a quiet little factory that has turned out, in a way of its own, "*prepared smartness*" for mankind in a shape and form never utilized before.

The horse-radish mill of Messrs. Gager & Baldwin on North Prospect street is an oddity, which has no rival in the world. It is only recently that this well-known root has been prepared in a way that would preserve its pungency, and render it fit for table use at all seasons. The firm had twenty acres of ground occupied in 1878 in raising the plant. It is taken, when of proper size, to a dry-house, and after a certain amount of drying and other preparation, is ground to flour in a mill, or grated. It is prepared for market in various ways, being mostly put in bottles hermetically sealed. In addition, the

firm manufacture pumpkin flour for culinary purposes. The pumpkins by a somewhat similar process are worked into flour, which is put in neat packages for the market. Both productions are oddities which are attracting universal attention and bid fair to become staple goods in the market.

THE A. B. CHASE ORGAN.

The A. B. Chase Organ Company, another of Norwalk's far famed industries, was organized under a charter granted September 1, 1875, with an authorized capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. The stock was soon taken, and the following officers were elected: A. B. Chase, president; L. L. Doud, secretary and treasurer; H. R. Moore, an inventive and experienced organ builder, general superintendent.

The buildings occupy two acres of ground on the east side of Newton street, adjoining the track of the Lake Shore Railroad, which affords them opportunity of receiving supplies and shipping direct. The main building is a three-story structure, forty by one hundred feet, to which are joined spacious boiler and engine rooms, stock and dry houses. The company sold their first organ on July 25, 1876, and have constructed upwards of two thousand. Believing in the old maxim that "True merit ever achieves success," none but educated and experienced workmen are employed, and all that inventive genius has perfected in their line of machinery, is to be found at command. The fact that this company was organized in, and successfully worked through the greatest and most disastrous of all financial crises that have visited our country, is in itself sufficient evidence that the basis and production are sound and healthy, and that Norwalk may well be proud of being the home of the company.

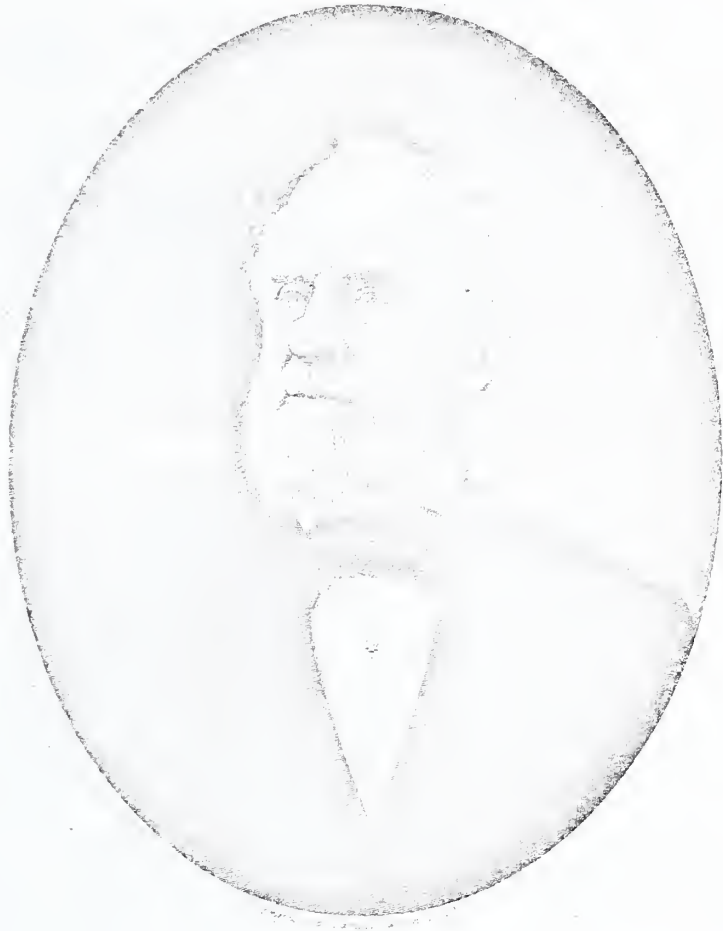
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

In presenting the foregoing as a history of Norwalk, it is proper to state that in the limited time allowed for its preparation, it has been impossible to verify every statement of fact made; but so far as time and opportunity permitted, none but the most trustworthy sources of information have been consulted.

For valuable information and assistance in preparing the work, the writer desires to acknowledge his great obligation to "Scattered Sheaves, by Ruth" (Mrs. M. F. C. Worcester) published in the *Firelands Pioneer*, and her report of the different soldiers' aid societies; to a history of the schools prepared in 1876, by Theodore Williams, Esq.; to a history of the Protestant Episcopal Church published in 1876, by Charles E. Newman, Esq.; for other church histories furnished, to Rev. J. S. Broadwell, Rev. J. D. Williamson, J. W. Baker, Esq., Rev. Peter Kolopp, Rev. A. C. Ulrich, Rev. T. F. Halley, Prudden Alling, Esq., (written by himself two weeks before his death) Rev. J. W. Cowan, Rev. A. Eilert, Rev. E. Hathaway, Judge F. Wickham, and M. Barker, Esq.; to E. A. Pray, C. L. Merry, C. W. Flinn, S.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN CARDNER, NORWALK, O.



John G. Gardner

T. A. Van Seiver and D. T. Hall for histories of different secret societies; to Isaac Underhill, Esq., Miner Cole, Esq., O. A. White, and many other citizens for favors and information; to the different county officers for facilities in searching the public records, and to the Young Men's Library and Reading Room Association for the use of many books for reference.

C. H. GALLUP.

NORWALK, OHIO, May 16, 1879.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN GARDINER,

NORWALK.

John Gardiner was born at Gardiner's Point, formerly known as Millstone Point, New London county, Connecticut, September 15, 1816. His grandfather, Benajah Gardiner, removed from Rhode Island to Plum Island, in the east part of Long Island Sound, where he remained a few years; thence he removed to Millstone Point in the year 1787. His wife was Miss Charlotte Raymond, of Montville, New London county.

Lebbeus W. Gardiner, son of Benajah, and father of John Gardiner, was born April 30, 1786, on Plum Island, and his wife was Miss Eunice Latimer, a daughter of Pickett Latimer, of New London. The ancestors of the Gardiner family came from England and settled originally in the State of Rhode Island. The mother of John Gardiner died in 1819, leaving three children, Charlotte, John and Julia, and the family then separated; John and Julia going with their grand parents, at Millstone Point, and Charlotte with the Latimers, north of New London—the father, L. W. Gardiner, after the death of his wife, following the sea as captain of a clipper coasting schooner, sailing from New London to Baltimore, Wilmington, New Orleans and South America. He died at Norwalk, March 9, 1862. As soon as John was old enough, he attended school at Durfee Hill, about one mile from his home across lots, which was kept as a district school about six months during the year, and when not attending school he worked on the farm.

In 1831, Mr. Gardiner went to school at Bacon academy, Colechester, where he remained a year, making navigation his principal study, with a view of following the sea—as New London was at that time largely and prosperously engaged in the whale fishery and West India trade, and sent annually a fleet of ships to the Pacific ocean for whale, and to the north seas for whale and seal. At Bacon academy, Mr. Gardiner formed the acquaintance of the present chief justice Waite; Hon. John T. Waite, M. C., of Norwich; Hon. Lyman Trumbull, ex-senator, of Illinois, and Commodore Rogers, United States navy, who were then preparing for college.

In the fall of 1832, Mr. Gardiner was persuaded by his uncle, John M. Latimer, Esq., to visit Ohio, which in the end changed his whole course of life. About three thousand acres of land near Bellevue, in Huron county, had been given by the State of Connecticut to Pickett Latimer, the grandfather, for losses sustained by fire when New London was burned by the British during the revolution, which grant of land had already brought Pickett Latimer, an uncle, to Huron county, and who was engaged in mercantile pursuits at Norwalk. Leaving New London by steamboat early in December, 1832, before the days of railroads, Mr. Gardiner journeyed west to Albany, where he took stage as far as Hamilton, New York, where he remained during the winter, and attended school at Hamilton academy; and in the early spring of 1833, left Utica by canal boat for the west. Arriving at Buffalo the last days of April, he embarked on the steamer "Uncle Sam," being the first boat to leave Buffalo that spring for Detroit and intermediate ports. At that time nearly the whole south shore of Lake Erie was skirted with primeval forests, and only occasional glimpses of light were discernible in the evening from the log cabins of the settlers along the line of shore, and Cleveland contained only some two thousand inhabitants, living mostly below the public square, and without street improvements or sidewalks.

On the first of May the steamer arrived at the Port of Huron, which was then quite a shipping point, and a hack, driven by a man by the name of Sweat, conveyed Mr. Gardiner to his future home. Norwalk at that time contained about four hundred inhabitants, but not a person or animal was visible in the streets on his arrival, and the village was entirely surrounded by forests, except where the roads were cut through, and wild deer frequently crossed the roads at each end of the village, and the county was dotted over with the log cabins of the early settlers, and the roads in early spring almost impassable. Mr. Gardiner immediately commenced clerking in the store of P. & J. M. Latimer—who were doing a large business in general merchandise and produce, which latter found a ready market at Detroit, to supply the settlers of Michigan) and at a salary of seventy-five dollars a year and board; which a young man of seventeen, at the present day, would think a very small compensation for his valuable services.

In the spring of 1834 Mr. Gardiner was solicited to take a clerkship in the Bank of Norwalk, an institution which had commenced business in 1833, with a special charter from the State of Ohio, with the Hon. Ebenezer Lane, president, who was then one of the supreme judges of the State, and Martin Bentley, cashier. During the summer of 1834 the cashier died very suddenly, leaving Mr. Gardiner, then only eighteen, in charge of the bank for nearly two months, when George Mygatt, Esq., was appointed to the vacancy. At that early day this was the only bank in north-western Ohio, and its business extended south

to Mount Vernon, Mansfield, Marion and Bucyrus; west to Toledo, Perrysburg and Fremont; north to Huron and Sandusky, bringing Mr. Gardiner in contact with all the leading business men of that region of country, who then came to Norwalk for their bank accommodations. The bank went successfully through the panic of 1837, and was one of the first banks in Ohio to resume coin payments after the failure of the government deposit banks and the Bank of the United States, and finally closed up, paying back nearly all its capital to its original shareholders, and selling its franchise to Mr. Higgins and his associates.

In 1835 and 1836 emigration was pushing itself west by every leading road, and long lines of emigrant wagons were passing daily westward, the occupants in pursuit of new homes, and the western land fever had seized upon nearly all classes of citizens. Mr. Gardiner, not yet of age, proceeded to the western counties of Ohio and the eastern counties of Indiana on horseback, over muddy roads and trails through the forest, and purchased some tracts of government land. But as the panic came upon the country in 1837 and all land speculations ceased, it took over fifteen years before Mr. Gardiner could finally close out his land, and then without much profit, after counting interest and taxes. The whole western country, after the collapse of 1837, was land poor.

Mr. Gardiner having finally been appointed cashier of the bank, and John R. Finn, president, and the bank, owing to adverse legislation, about closing its business, resigned the office of cashier in September, 1840, and commenced the business of merchandising at No. 1, Brick block, keeping a general stock of merchandize and dealing very largely in produce: so much so that his combined business, in 1844, had reached over one hundred thousand dollars per annum.

In the spring of 1845, Mr. Gardiner took into business with him Richard D. Joslin, his brother-in-law; and, leaving him in charge of the business, went to New York with the intention of engaging in the wholesale dry goods trade in the following January. But after spending the summer in the city in a dry goods store, and not being satisfied with the prospects of the trade, he returned to Norwalk in November and continued the mercantile business with his partner until the spring of 1847, when he disposed of his interest to his partner, Mr. Joslin, and with some friends established the Norwalk Branch of the State Bank of Ohio, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, afterward increased to one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. This bank commenced business in May, 1847, with Mr. Gardiner as cashier and manager, and for eighteen years did a successful business; and, notwithstanding large losses consequent upon the panic of 1856, and the failure of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust company, and general suspension of the banks, closed out its business in 1865, returning its capital to the share holders, having paid in dividends over two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars.

In March, 1865, Mr. Gardiner, with some friends, organized the Norwalk National bank, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, which succeeded to the business of the Norwalk Branch of the State bank, and has, up to this period (1879), done a successful business, with Mr. Gardiner as its president, and Charles W. Millen, cashier.

In 1847, Mr. Gardiner was elected a member of the board of control of the State bank of Ohio, and continued a member of that distinguished body, consisting of the most prominent men of the State, until the State bank finally closed its business, and was superseded by the National banks in 1865.

While banking has been Mr. Gardiner's principal occupation, he has not omitted other enterprises connected with the general improvement and development of the country. He was one of the first to move in obtaining a charter for the Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland railroad company, and was one of the original incorporators of the company in a charter granted in 1850. After the road was constructed and in operation, in 1853, it was consolidated with the Junction railroad, forming the Toledo and Cleveland railroad company, of which Mr. Gardiner was elected a director in 1856, and in November, 1860, was elected president of the company.

At this time the company was carrying a large floating debt, and its securities were very much depressed, so much so that its stock was selling so low as twenty cents on the dollar. But under Mr. Gardiner's supervision, and consequent upon the war, and the large issue of paper money, the floating debt was paid off, dividends resumed, the earnings of the company more than doubled and the stock advanced in the market to over one hundred and fifty cents on the dollar.

In 1865, the capital stock having changed hands, Mr. Gardiner was superseded in the presidency, though he remained a director until it was consolidated with the Lake Shore line, in 1869.

The Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark railroad was one of the first railroads commenced in the State, and was intended for the transfer of passengers and freight from the interior towns to and from the lake for shipment, and after struggling through financial difficulties until 1863, when Charles L. Boalt was elected president, and Mr. Gardiner was elected one of its directors, and they proceeded to form a line for traffic from Sandusky to Baltimore, by the Central Ohio and Baltimore and Ohio railroads, and this arrangement met with such success that they leased the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark railroad, to the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company in 1869, since which time it has done a successful business. On the death of C. L. Boalt, in 1870, Mr. Gardiner was elected president of the company, and is still its president, though the road is operated by the Baltimore and Ohio company under the lease, and forms a part of its main line to Chicago.

Mr. Gardiner was elected a director of the Columbus and Indianapolis Rail Road Company in 1863—



B. F. Hawks, Photographer.

PLATT BENEDICT.

which road was intended to form a line between Columbus, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, and after consolidating with various lines, finally embraced about six hundred miles of road under the name of the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railway Company.

In the winter of 1868, Mr. Gardiner and Ex-Gov. William Dennison, with the President, B. E. Smith, were appointed a committee to negotiate a lease of the road to the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway Company, and the Pennsylvania Rail Road Company, which lease was made on the 22d day of January, 1869, and duly ratified, though it was amended one year thereafter, and under it the road is still operated. In Mr. Gardiner's railroad connections he has become acquainted with most of the leading railroad magnates of the day, for many of whom he still entertains a high appreciation.

Mr. Gardiner was married at Norwalk on the 31st day of July, 1843, to Miss Frances Mary Joslin—a daughter of Dr. Benjamin A. Joslin, of Troy, New York, and his wife, Frances C. Davis, of Poughkeepsie, New York—and four children were the offspring of this marriage, viz.: Edmund G. Gardiner who was born August 23, 1844; John Gardiner, Jr., who was born February 28, 1847; Lucy Jane Gardiner who was born June 4, 1848, and died at the age of five years, and William L. Gardiner who was born June 24, 1857.

Edmund G. Gardiner married Miss Susie J. Barnes, of Norwalk. John Gardiner, Jr., married Miss Louisa Woodward, of Bellevue.

Mr. Gardiner purchased his present residence on West Main street, in the year 1848, and occupied it the same spring, having since added to it from time to time, and increased the quantity of land until he now owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his residence, almost wholly within the corporate limits of the village.

Politically, he was an original Henry Clay whig but when the whig party merged into the republican. Mr. Gardiner went with his party, and has always remained a republican, and contributed to its success, but without ever seeking an office, or soliciting the votes of his friends or party for political preferment or position.

Mr. Gardiner has lived nearly a half century in Norwalk, during which time he has applied himself to business pursuits, without wavering or faltering, in his onward course, or ever failing to discharge his pecuniary obligations, and without a blemish on his business character, or integrity; and during which time the early pioneers of the county, with nearly all of whom he was acquainted, have gone to their long homes, having stamped their principles of industry, integrity and perseverance upon their children and successors. The business, and the leading men of that early day, are nearly all dead, many having failed in business during the collapse of 1837; and the log cabins of the early settlers have disap-

peared from the county, and good farm houses have taken their places, occupied by as thrifty and intelligent a class of people, as are to be found in any section of the United States. Mr. Gardiner remembers many acts of kindness from those early friends who occupied positions which enabled them to assist him in his early business career, and who were ever ready to lend him aid in carrying forward his business enterprises, and to whose generous support and assistance he attributes much of his ultimate success.

May, 1879.

PLATT BENEDICT.

About the year A. D. 1500, William Benedict, of Nottinghamshire, in England, had an only son born to him whom he called William; this William, 2d, had an only son whom he called William; and this William, 3d, had in 1617 an only son, whom he called Thomas.

In 1638 Thomas came to America and settled in New England; after remaining there for a time he removed to Southhold, on Long Island, where were born to him five sons and four daughters, whose names were Thomas, John, Samuel, James, Daniel, Betty, Mary, Sarah and Rebecca. From Southhold the family removed to Massamamuc, from there to Jamaica, Long Island, (where Thomas was married,) from there, last of all, they removed to Norwalk, Fairfield county, Connecticut, where all the remaining children were married.

Daniel married Mary, daughter of Matthew Marvin, of Norwalk; and was a soldier in the "direful swamp fight" of December 19, 1675 (Connecticut Historical Collections, pages 20-1—Palfrey's History of New England, vol. 3, pages 176 to 180); after which, at a Norwalk town meeting, January 12, 1676, "The towne, in consideration of the good service that the soldiers sent out of the towne engaged and performed by them, and out of respect and thankfulness to the sayd soldiers, doe with one consent and freely give and grant to so many as were in the direful swamp fight, twelve acres of land; and eight acres of land to so many as were in the next considerable service." Accordingly, there was granted by the plantation, as a gratuity unto Daniel Benedict, "Being a souldier in the Indian warr, twelve acres of land and lyeth in three parcels."

He sold his Norwalk property in 1690, and removed to Danbury.

His children were Mary, Daniel 2d, Hannah and Meroy.

Daniel 2d married Rebecca, daughter of Thomas Taylor, one of the original settlers of Danbury, Connecticut, and their children were Daniel 3d, Matthew, Theophilus, Rebecca, Mary, David, Nathan and Deborah.

Captain Daniel 3d, born 1705, married Sarah Hiekok 1728, and died November 9, 1773; their children were, Daniel 4th, Lemuel, Noah, Sarah, Jonas, Aaron, Ruth, Mary and Amos.

Jonas was born September 21, 1742; married January 14, 1767, to Mercy Boughton, and died October 30, 1820. He was a member of the general assembly of Connecticut in 1809. Their children were Elizabeth, Jonas 2d, Platt, Sarah, Daniel 5th, Mary and Eli.

Platt Benedict, the subject of this memoir, was born at Danbury, Connecticut, March 18, 1775, and was of the sixth generation of Benedicts in America. He married, November 12, 1795, Sarah, daughter of Daniel DeForest, of Wilton, Connecticut. She was born August 27, 1777, and died June 24, 1852, at Norwalk, Ohio. Their children were:

Clarissa, born September 4, 1796; married Hallet Gallup, April 9, 1820; died January 11, 1878, at Norwalk, Ohio, leaving two sons and four daughters now living in Norwalk, Ohio, viz.: Catherine, Maria (wife of Marlin A. Dunton), Carroll, Sarah (wife of Henry Brown), Caleb H. and Lizzie F.

David Mead, born August 17, 1801; married September 24, 1833, to Mary Booth Starr; and died June 16, 1843, at Danbury, leaving no issue.

Daniel Bridgum, born June 1, 1803; died September 9, 1827, at New Orleans, Louisiana. Not married.

Jonas Boughton, born March 23, 1806; married October 8, 1829, to Fanny, daughter of Henry Buckingham; and died at Norwalk, Ohio, July 29, 1851, leaving one son, David DeForest (Dr. Benedict, the present druggist of Norwalk, Ohio), and one daughter, Fanny B., who married Louis H. Severance, of Cleveland, and died August 1, 1874.

And Eliza Ann, born October 27, 1812; married William Brewster, May 1, 1832, and died August 17, 1840, at Norwalk, Ohio, leaving two sons, both of whom died in childhood.

After his marriage he removed to North Salem, Westchester county, New York, where his daughter Clarissa was born; and from there he removed to Randal's Island, in East River, where he engaged in market gardening; in a few years he removed back to Danbury, and was appointed collector of that town, in which capacity he acted in 1812-13.

In September, 1815, he first came to Ohio to look up a new home, and in the latter part of October, in company with Elisha Whittlesey and Maj. Frederick Falley visited and examined the present site of Norwalk. He then returned to Danbury and negotiated the purchase of about one thousand three hundred acres of land (now the site of Norwalk) on behalf of Elisha Whittlesey, Matthew B. Whittlesey, E. Moss White and himself.

In January, 1817, he again returned to take charge of and make improvements upon the new purchase; erected a log house (which was the first building constructed by white men within the present corporate

limits of the village of Norwalk), commenced a clearing upon the flats south of his new house, and on April 4th returned to Danbury, arriving there May 4th.

In July, 1817, he left Danbury with his family, in a covered wagon drawn by one horse, and another wagon loaded with household goods, provisions, etc., drawn by four oxen; also, one saddle horse. After seven weeks of fatiguing travel and hardship, they arrived at the house of David Gibbs and Henry Lockwood in Norwalk on September 9th and then learned that their house, built that spring, was burned down. In this emergency, the open-handed hospitality of frontier life was extended to them by the families of Gibbs and Lockwood, and there they remained until a new house was erected. Of the erection of that house, destined to be the avant-courier of so many noble structures and happy homes, Mr. Benedict himself says (*Fire-lands Pioneer* of March, 1859, page eighteen):

"On hearing of my house being burned, we stopped with Messrs. Gibbs and Lockwood, who very hospitably entertained us until I got my house in a condition to move in. They were accommodating Capt. John Boalt's family, nine of whom were sick with the ague. We staid there from Monday until Friday, when we went into our new home, a log pen twenty feet square, no doors, windows, fire-place, and no furniture except some cooking utensils used on our journey. Built a fire against the logs on one side of the shanty, made up our beds on the floor, which was so green and damp it spoiled the under-beds, which induced me to fit up two bedsteads, one for myself and wife and one for my daughters, placed in opposite corners of the shanty, by boring holes in the logs, for the sides and feet, and one upright post put into a hole in the floor, and fastened at the top, and with basswood bark, made matting in the place of cord, and when completed they were very comfortable. I cut out two doors and two windows. The sash I bought but could get no glass; in place of which I used greased paper. Built an oven in one corner, part in and part outside, with clay and sticks; also a stick chimney above the chamber floor, had no jams. After burning out three or four logs, I built up the back part of the chimney of muck and sticks. I chinked up and mudded between the logs, which made it very comfortable. For a few days we were almost without provisions; we had green corn, turnips and milk."

The late Seth Jenning, of Milin, says (*Pioneer*, March, 1860, page 11): "I commenced splitting clapboards out of oak timber to make the roof of. Every man that could work was on hand to help and do his best toward getting up the house. The women turned out and brought up our dinners that day; but we got along so well with the house that the next morning Mr. Benedict moved up, and Mrs. Benedict cooked our dinners that day by a log near the house."

In "Scattered Sheaves, by Ruth," it is stated (*Pioneer* of September, 1860, page 42), "There were



Timothy Baker.

Engraved by H. B. Ford, N. Y.

present, Levi Cole and his sons, Maj. Underhill, David and Jasper Underhill, his nephews, Lott Her-
rick, ——— Sanderson, Daniel Clary, Noah P. Ward,
Elihu Potter, Richard Gardiner, Reuben Pixley
and his son Reuben, Henry Lockwood, David Gibbs
and others. Says David Underhill, 2d., 'Asher
Cole, Sanderson and myself, cut logs in the woods
near, or on the ground now occupied by the railroad
buildings, and the water was ankle deep; Lott Her-
rick drove the team. Mr. Benedict regaled his fellow
laborers with Jamaica rum, instead of whisky, which
was usually furnished on such occasions. Mrs. Un-
derhill, furnished, cooked the dinner, and sent it to
us. It consisted mainly of pork, potatoes, turnips
and bread.'"

In an unpublished narrative, dictated by Mrs.
Benedict not long before her death, she says: "Two
miles from any neighbor our little cabin stood; the
floor of logs split in the middle, not smoothed by
plane or chisel; our chairs made in the same rude
manner; our table was of pieces of boxes in which
our goods had been packed, and "saplings" fastened
together, formed our bedsteads. On one side of our
cabin was a large fire-place, on the east and west sides
were doors, on the north our only windows, in which
to supply the place of glass, we pasted pieces of
greased paper.

"And many pleasant evenings we spent beside that
huge fire-place, cracking nuts and eating, *not* apples,
but turnips. You need not laugh, I tell you those
raw turnips tasted good when there was nothing else
to eat, and as the flames grew bright, our merry party
would forget that they were not in their eastern
home, but far away in the wilds of Ohio.

"We heard the howl of the wolf and the whoop of
the Indian resounding through the forest, for a
favorite hunting ground of these wild men was situ-
ated near our cabin, and often would the Indians
assemble and renew their noisy sports, little dreaming
of the tide of emigration which should finally sweep
them away.

"One night the loud barking of our dog attracted
our attention, followed by a knock at the door: on
opening which, in stalked a large Indian, dressed in
furs and blanket, and fully armed. The children
huddled close to me as he came near and asked for
"daddy." He was evidently intoxicated, and I did
not dare to let him know that "daddy" was not at
home. I asked him to sit down, but he preferred to
stretch himself before the fire, where he soon fell
asleep. When he awoke he was nearly sober and
quite inclined to be talkative. He told me of the
many wrongs the Indian had suffered; that the white
man planted corn over his father's bones; and the
poor old Indian wept. Finally he started up, ex-
claiming, 'daddy no come, you no sleep, I go to my
brothers', and he went away.

"Sleep was a stranger to our eyes that night, we kept
ourselves in readiness for flight, for we expected the
'red-face' would return with his brothers to murder

us all. The riches of a kingdom would not repay us
for another such night of anxiety. But as time
passed on, we gained the friendship of these denizens
of the forest, and they brought us *morey, many* pres-
ents in their own rude way."

From the date of Mr. Benedict's settlement to that
of his death, his history is so completely intertwined
with that of the growth and prosperity of the town,
that to give it here in detail would only be a repeti-
tion of a large part of the history of Norwalk.

June 17, 1856, he married, as his second wife, Mrs.
Lavina P. Benton of Republic, Ohio, who survived
him and died February 9, 1875.

A few days before his death, he attended the Grand
Encampment of Masons at Toledo, became very much
fatigued by over exertion, was attacked by bowel
complaint, but so great were his physical powers and
so determined his will, that he returned to Norwalk,
after which he rapidly grew worse; yet, so remarka-
ble was his vitality that he kept up and around his
room until within a very few hours of the end. One
of his last acts preceding his death, only about six
hours, was the dictation and signing a very salutary
codicil to his will for the benefit of his wife.

With all his faculties of mind clear and distinct to
the last, he quietly passed away October 25, 1866,
aged ninety-one years, seven months and seven days.

His funeral took place on the following Sabbath
and was conducted by the Knights Templar from
various parts of northern Ohio, who came in special
trains run from Cleveland and Toledo for that pur-
pose.

His cherished and aged friend, Rev. Samuel Marks
of Huron, Ohio, officiated, and at the grave, in the
presence of assembled thousands, said: "Venerable
man! May thy ashes rest in peace, and the clouds fall
lightly upon thy bosom! Thy virtues will be em-
balméd forever in our heart of hearts. Fare thee
well."

HON. TIMOTHY BAKER.

The subject of this sketch, was a native of North-
ampton, Mass., where he was born August 5, 1787.
He went in 1801 to Utica and in 1805 made his home
in Herkimer, N. Y., where, in 1813, he married Miss
Eliza Remington, of Fairfield, a union which brought
him forty-six years of rare domestic happiness, until
her death, which occurred September 27, 1862.

In 1814, he joined some friends in a journey to this
county, but with no intention of removing here or of
making purchases himself. Passing through Norwalk
on an Indian trail, the party found shelter for the
night in a log cabin about fifteen feet square, two
miles south of the village, with several other similar
companies, ten or twelve making their bed on the
poles and bark that formed the floor under the primi-
tive roof. He again visited Ohio in 1815 and pur-
chased several large tracts of land, including the farm

in Norwalk, to which he came with his family and his brother, Theodore Baker, September 27, 1819, and where he resided for nearly sixty years, when the shadow of death again fell upon the home, and at the age of ninety years, on January 27, 1878, his earthly life ended.

Others, parents, relatives, and friends, had been borne from his house to their last resting place, but his own family had been spared through all these years, and his six children, one daughter and five sons, with their companions, yet survive him.

The little company of inhabitants in Norwalk embraced about ten or twelve families when he came, and was very cordially welcomed by them. He entered at once earnestly and heartily into all their plans for the advancement of the place, and was for forty years personally connected with nearly every public enterprise that promised to increase its wealth, its prosperity, or its intelligence.

The tannery that he built in 1820 soon passed to his brother, and in his own business he soon became widely known as a landholder and merchant. He was also more or less engaged in banking, and was for many years president of the Bank of Norwalk, then one of the most substantial institutions of the kind in Ohio. In 1831 he was chosen by the Legislature an associate judge (under the old judicial system), and after twenty-one years of service, declined another nomination in 1842. It is but justice to say that during that long period he maintained a standing as a jurist reached by few in that position, his relations to the court being recognized as far more important than were often accorded to associates. This was due alike to his sound judgment, careful investigation, and conscientious regard for justice."

In 1842 he became a member of the First Baptist Church of Norwalk, a relation that he assumed with great self-distrust. The tie thus formed was a source of strength and blessing in the changes that came with the passing years, of which the sweetness of his closing days gave precious evidence.

In his home he was the kind and thoughtful husband, the loved and honored father, the genial companion, the hospitable friend, practicing in his own life the habits of self-control that he enforced upon his children who recall his life with mingled love and reverence.

GIDEON T. STEWART.

Mr. Stewart was born at Johnston, Fulton county, New York, in 1824, and is therefore nearly fifty-five years old. His ancestors, on his father's side, came from the north of Ireland, originally from Scotland. They became the founders of the first academy in Schenectady, New York, which afterwards became Union College. His mother was the daughter of a distinguished Methodist divine of revolutionary fame.

Rev. Nicholas Hill, Sr., and a sister of the celebrated lawyer of the same name. At the age of fourteen he removed with his father's family to Oberlin, Ohio. He soon entered Oberlin college, but while in his sophomore year, left that institution to commence the study of law, first at Norwalk, and subsequently at Columbus in the office of Chief Justice Swayne of Ohio, now of the United States Supreme court. In August, 1846, he commenced the practice of his profession at Norwalk, Ohio, where he now resides. He edited the Whig organ at Norwalk for three years, and was three times elected county auditor by that party. Immediately upon the organization of the Republican party he identified himself with it.

In 1861 he went to Dubuque, Iowa, and purchased the *Daily Times* of that place, the only Union daily newspaper then published in the north half of that state. He edited it through the war, then sold out and returned to Norwalk, and resumed the practice of law, which he has since continued. He at one time owned one-half of the *Toledo Daily Blade*, and at another, one-half of the *Daily Commercial* of that city.

In 1847 he helped organize Norwalk division of the Sons of Temperance, which is still an active working temperance society, and of which he remains a charter member. He has been three times elected presiding officer of the Order of Good Templars in Ohio.

As an item of interest in the history of the temperance reform, it may be well to say that in 1857, Mr. Stewart presided over a state temperance convention, held at Columbus, for the purpose of organizing an independent prohibition political party; that this convention appointed a committee to call a state nominating convention, but the movement was stopped by the war in Kansas, followed by the war of the rebellion. In 1869 he was a delegate to the Chicago convention, that organized the National Prohibition party, and has ever since been a member of the national executive committee. He has been three times candidate of the Prohibition Reform party in Ohio for supreme judge, and thrice for governor.

He is a clear, logical reasoner, and possessed of excellent executive ability. He is thoroughly posted in political history and economy, and there are few, if any, men in the country who more thoroughly understand the questions relating to temperance.

BARNARD CORTRITE

is a son of Garrett V. and Electa Cortrite, his father being a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother, of Connecticut. He was born in the town of Phelps, Ontario county, New York, September 25, 1831. He remained with his parents, devoting himself industriously to the occupation of farming until he was



RES. & FACTORY OF B. CORTRITE, 119 EAST MAIN ST., NORWALK, O.

twenty-two years of age. All the education he received was "picked up" in a district school, some two miles distant from his home.

Having a natural fondness for machinery, and his father being one of the first to introduce the mowing machine into Ontario county, young Barnard, when he was but fourteen years old, at the request of a farmer living some twelve miles distant, took his father's mower, and drove to the place, arriving late at night. Going to work in the meadow the next morning, he cut, by noon of the second day, twenty acres of grass; for which feat he was highly complimented in the county newspapers.

In April, 1854, Mr. Cortrite went to Wisconsin, to manage a farm consisting of a section of land, for a gentleman by the name of A. C. Loomis, where he remained until that gentleman's death. He then went to Saginaw, Michigan, and engaged in the Saginaw City mills, as an assistant sawyer, but at the end of three weeks he was promoted to the position of first sawyer, by the proprietor of the mills. Here he cast his first vote, in the fall of 1856, for General Fremont. For the rest of that year, after the sawing season was over, he employed himself in chopping cord wood, at fifty cents a day.

In 1857, on account of his father's death, he was called home to settle up the estate. After performing this duty, he took the whole family, viz.: His mother, three brothers and three sisters, to Genesee county, Michigan, where they located.

At about this period, Mr. Cortrite became connected with the firm of Ledyard & Bennett, of Plymouth, Wayne county, Michigan, as salesman and collector during the spring, summer and fall, and during the winter, as manufacturer of fanning mills. With this firm he remained five successive years, during which time, on the 28th of September, 1860, he was married to Lydia Ann, daughter of Stephen and Sarah Terry, of Plymouth, Michigan. Of this union were born two children, Hattie E. and Sarah A., both of whom are living.

In the year 1864, after a protracted illness, he engaged with the firm of Shutts & Ferrier, manufacturers of machinery, as salesman for a term of three years. While engaged with this firm, he was solicited by Mr. Bennett, one of his former employers, to go to Ohio and engage in the fanning mill business with him, becoming an equal partner and manager. This he did, purchasing land and erecting a factory in the village of Norwalk, Huron county, and entering into partnership for a term of three years. At the end of this term he purchased Mr. Bennett's interest, and became sole owner of the property.

During his many years' experience in this business, Mr. Cortrite became convinced that a more perfect mill than those then in use, was needed, and could be constructed. And soon after becoming sole proprietor of the establishment above named, he invented what

is now widely known as the "Eureka Fanning Mill," for which he obtained letters patent.

This invention has proved eminently successful, and its success is attributable not only to the ingenuity of the invention itself, but also to the prudence, energy and financial ability with which the inventor has, for a period of some fourteen years, conducted his affairs. His business has rapidly increased until, with the facilities afforded by his Norwalk factory, and the one recently established by him at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the average number of his mills sold annually is over one thousand.

During the years of 1877-8, Mr. C. erected and completed the fine residence, a view of which appears on another page of this work, and which the people of Norwalk properly regard as an ornament to their village. He has also made many improvements upon his factory buildings and the surrounding grounds, which are indicative of his artistic taste, as well as of his pecuniary ability.

In the year 1872, Mr. Cortrite made a public profession of religion and united with the M. E. church, of which he is still an active member.

DAVID HARLOW PEASE.

D. H. Pease was born in Somers, Connecticut, November 9, 1826, and at the time of death, January 13, 1872, was in the forty-sixth year of his age.

His early years were spent in his native town, and in addition to such knowledge as he could obtain at the public school, he pursued his studies for two years at the village academy at Wilbraham, Massachusetts.

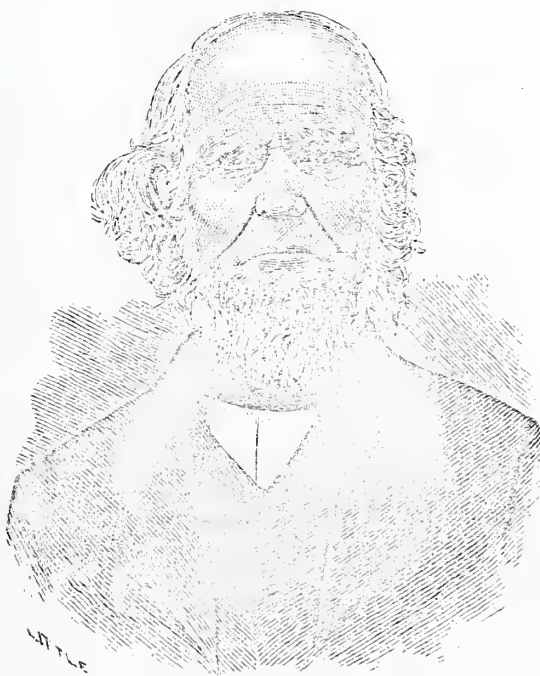
He came to Norwalk, Ohio, in 1852, and was engaged in the book and drug business until 1863, when he was elected county auditor, and filled that position with remarkable fidelity for three successive terms until 1869, since which time, until his death, he was actively engaged in merchandise.

So, few words express in general terms the story of Mr. Pease's life. He was not a man to limit his cares or his labors to his own or his family's well being. With an earnest desire to promote the welfare of all within the reach of his influence, he combined a rare judgment, an indomitable perseverance and remarkable efficiency. While yet a young man, he determined to do what one man could to promote the cause of temperance, and his time, labor, means and counsel have been freely given, year after year, to further this great object. He was active in the formation of the Young Men's Library and Reading Room Association, and at the time of his death, was one of its most efficient and valuable officers. His interest in the Fire-land's Historical Society was unflagging for years. His duties as secretary of the society and editor of the *Pioneer*, occupied much of his valuable time, and this he freely gave from some time

in the year 1860, when he was chosen editor of the *Pioneer*, to the time that he was compelled by weakness to lay aside his pen. In early manhood he made up his mind that whatever was excellent in character or elevating and ennobling in tendency, was generally connected with the Christian church. He, therefore, sustained the public worship of God by his example and most generous contributions, and his counsel and personal presence could always be depended upon in sustaining the Sabbath school. He was foremost in every good work, and counted no sacrifice to great for the public good. Such characters as Mr. Pease's are not common; it is only here and there that such a man is vouchsafed to a community. Genial and happy in his home—a kind neighbor, a wise and faithful citizen—we miss his presence in our assemblages—we miss his counsels and his labors. He has gone from us in the prime of life and in the midst of great usefulness, but has left to the community the rich legacy of a pure and upright life. Let us imitate his example and emulate his virtues.

JOHN LAYLIN.

John Laylin was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, May 22, 1791. His parents removed to Beaver, Pennsylvania, in 1796. In March, 1810,



his father sold his farm and started for the "lake country," taking with him all his family, except John, who remained behind until June of the same year to receive a payment for the farm, which became due at that time. John hired out during the summer to a farmer at ten dollars and fifty cents per month, and attended school during the following winter. In the spring his grandfather, Abraham Powers, and

Hanson Reed, decided to follow John's parents to the frontier. Accordingly they started overland through the wilderness, taking with them such household goods and other property as they could carry. John accompanied them, assisting in driving stock and in other ways rendering them aid during their long, tedious journey. The party at length arrived at Cuyahoga portage. They then learned that John's father and party had stopped there the previous spring, on their way to the frontier, and raised a crop of corn, and in the fall had removed to the mouth of Black river, on the lake shore. John remained with his grandfather's party until they reached Greenfield, Huron county, where they settled. He remained with Hanson Reed one month, to assist him in planting corn. He then started alone and on foot, by Indian trails, to join his father's family, near Black river. While on this lonely journey, sleeping on the bank of the Vermillion river, he was surrounded by wolves, but, by the greatest vigilance, and kindling a fire, he kept them at bay until morning. In October, 1811, the family removed to West Berlin, Erie county. During the following winter, Mr. Laylin taught school, receiving his board and one dollar and a quarter tuition per scholar, as compensation.

In the spring of 1812 war was declared between England and the United States. A meeting of the citizens of that and the surrounding counties was held to provide means for defence. A petition, asking for assistance from the governor of Ohio, was forwarded, and a company of "minute men" was organized for home defence. Mr. Laylin joined the company, and on the next day it marched to the peninsula off Sandusky to ascertain if there were any Indians in the vicinity. Mr. Laylin was prevented joining this expedition by severe sickness. From the entire company of thirty, only four or five survived the expedition. Nothing was heard of the poor fellows until their whitened bones were found in the following September by a detachment of Commodore Perry's victorious troops. In August, General Hull surrendered to the British, which was not known among the settlers until a small British fleet appeared off Huron, from which some of the prisoners taken were sent in small boats to the shore.

The greatest consternation prevailed. In the panic which followed, the family fled to Mount Vernon. At Mansfield, they met a regiment hastening to the protection of the citizens on the border, and Mr. Laylin joined these troops. After his term of enlistment had expired, he rejoined his father's family at Mount Vernon. Here he learned the mason's trade. He was fond of reading and study and, not being confined closely at his trade, found time to avail himself of the advantages of a public library. He became a great student of ancient and modern history. He also watched with deep interest the great discoveries in science and the inventions of genius. It was during this time that his most lasting political and religious opinions were formed. In the mean-



Caleb H. Gallup
November 17, 1908

THIS INDIAN WAR-BELT

Was presented to Captain John Gallup, jr. by a friendly Indian, in 1875, shortly before King Phillip's War. It was regarded as a warning.

This belt is now in the museum of
the Firdlands Historical Society at
Barnwell, Ohio



It is six feet long, by three inches wide. Color, light black; material, deer's head's hair, and horse's head's hair, in 1675, shortly before King Phillip's War. It was regarded as a warning.

It is in possession of Captain John Gallup, jr. It is six feet long, by three inches wide. Color, light black; material, deer's head's hair, and horse's head's hair, in 1675, shortly before King Phillip's War. It was regarded as a warning.

time, his father's family had removed to Norwalk, but he remained in Mount Vernon until 1817, when he was called home by the death of his father. In October, 1818, he married Olive Clark, wife of Daniel Clark, of Bronson. Mr. Laylin then settled near Norwalk, on a farm which he had previously bought, where he passed the most active and useful portion of his life. During the years that followed he was a most zealous worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and Sabbath school, having made that the church of his choice. Nearly all religious services, prior to the erection of a church edifice in the village, were held at his house. He was appointed superintendent of a Sabbath school in the neighborhood, which position he filled for a number of years. During the year 1841, he was sorely bereaved in the death of his wife and two children. There remained of the family six children: two sons and four daughters.

Six years afterward, Mr. Laylin married Mrs. Mary Weyburn States, of Hartland, who proved an excellent wife and mother. In the strength of her affection she gathered into her love the remains of two broken families and was a true mother to them all.

Soon after his second marriage he removed to a residence on Medina street, Norwalk, where he remained until his death.

His faithful wife died April 16, 1877, after a long, painful illness, which baffled skill, love and care. For several years her husband's infirmity, and his desire to have her by him, confined her to the precincts of home. She was its light and strength. Her worth was manifest in the high esteem and reverence in which she was held by all her family. Mr. Laylin survived the death of his wife but a few days. He died, peacefully, April 26, 1877. There remain of his children: Estira, Mrs. Richard Elliott; Celestine, Mrs. W. W. Hildreth; Olive, Mrs. M. L. Carr; Mariette, Mrs. F. Good; and Marie, Mrs. Frank Evans. His sons, Theodore and Lewis C., are residents of Norwalk.

Mr. Laylin was a man of untiring energy and perseverance. Favored with few early advantages for mental culture, he availed himself to the utmost of what he had. Strength and definiteness were leading characteristics of his mind. He held decided and independent judgments on all religious and political questions that from time to time stirred public thought during his long life.

His life covers almost the entire national period of our history. He was born in the second year of Washington's first term, and was over eight years old when he (Washington) died. He was eligible to vote for fifteen presidents. His life runs back through Victoria's long reign—past William and George IV. to the middle of the stupid misrule of George III. Louis XVI. was still a monarch, the French reign of terror was yet unknown, and the great battles of Napoleon unfought. Nicholas and two Alexanders had not yet come to the throne of Russia, and the Empire of Austria was yet unborn. He has seen spring into

being the wonderful mechanical inventions and scientific discoveries that have so materially changed the economy of life.

He received from his mother religious instruction which, at eighteen, ripened into definite conversion. His religious convictions were welded in the white heat of early controversy, and ever bore the marks of their origin. He died firm in the faith that he would awaken amid the glories of his heavenly home.

CALEB H. GALLUP.

In Lorraine, part of the debatable territory between the French and German people: wasted and seared and scarred by many battles, now in possession of one people and then of the other, there is an ancient family of the name of Kolopp. From time immemorial the tradition has been handed down by its members, from generation to generation, that one of their number went to western Europe as a follower of William, Duke of Normandy, and never returned. This tradition was recently imparted to the writer by the Rev. Peter Kolopp, a member of that family now in charge of St. Peter's (Catholic) church of Norwalk.

Hume, in his history of the "Conquest," says: "The situation also of Europe inspired William with hopes that, besides his brave Normans, he might employ against England the flower of the military force which was dispersed in all the neighboring states. France, Germany and the Lower countries, by the progress of the feudal institutions, were divided and subdivided into many principalities and baronies. * * * A military spirit had universally diffused itself throughout Europe: * * * multitudes crowded to tender to the duke their services, with that of their vassals and retainers." (Hume's History of England, Boston edition of 1854, volume one, pages one hundred forty-one and two.) Readers of history will remember that these movements of "William the Conqueror" were crowned with success at the battle of Hastings, October 14, 1066.

As corroborative of the tradition in the Kolopp family of Lorraine, a tradition also exists in the Gallup family of America that the founder of the English branch came into England at the Conquest, from France. This tradition has often been related to the writer by the late Hallet Gallup of Norwalk.

The different spelling of the name by the two families is no indication of a difference in origin. In those early days education was confined to the monasteries, and family names were perpetuated by the medium of their children more than by written records. Afterwards, as education became more general, and men learned to *write* their names, the manner of spelling them was purely arbitrary, depending upon the sound, or the fancy of the individual. Kolopp is a correct phonetic spelling of the German pronunciation of Gallup.

Early in the seventeenth century, and previous to 1636, two brothers, John and William Gallup, came over to this country from England and settled at Boston, then but an infant settlement. John was an English sailor and soon became a Massachusetts fisherman, and with his little fishing smack became historic in the Indian troubles of that time—1636—(Palfrey's History of New England, volume one, page four hundred fifty-eight; Life and Letters of John Winthrop, pages one hundred fifty-eight, two hundred, and three hundred eighty-seven). He died at Boston about 1652, without issue.

Soon after the settlement of New London, Connecticut, and about 1648, William, who is supposed to have married at Boston, became a resident of that part of New London since called Groton, where he brought up two sons, Hallet and William (second), and probably other children.

In 1675, Hallet received warning, from a friendly Indian, of the trouble soon to culminate in that historic event known as "King Phillip's war." That warning was the present of a wampum belt, or rather, a belt made out of the long coarse hair of the black bear, ornamented with white beads set in the form of a "W." This indicated war. He raised a company of soldiers and took them into that "direful swamp fight" of December 19, 1775. The following quotation shows his fate:

"The legislature of the colony, in a representation of the services they had performed in the war, say: 'In that signal service, the fort fight, in Narragansett, as we had our full number in proportion to the other confederates, so all say they did their full proportion of service. Three noble soldiers, Seeley, courageous Marshall and bold Gallup, died in the bed of honor; and valiant Mason, a fourth captain, had his death's wound. There died many brave officers and sentinels, whose memory is blessed, and whose death redeemed our lives.'" (Barber's Connecticut Historical Collections, page 21; see, also, Palfrey's History of New England, volume III, page 177).

William (second) survived the war and raised a large family, one of which was a son named William (third), who also raised a family of two boys, William (fourth) and Hallet (second), and ten daughters, of whom there were six twins.

This William (third) removed from Groton, Connecticut, to Kingston, Pennsylvania, in October, 1774, and was living there at the time of the "Wyoming massacre," of July 3, 1778. His son Hallet (second) was in the fight, and escaped by floating down the Susquehanna river, with his body under water and his face protected from view, between two rafts grasped in his hands.

Two of his twin daughters, Sarah and Hannah, aged about five years, were captured and carried off by the Indians, painted and adopted by a squaw, but soon after ransomed.

Hannah, born at Groton, Connecticut, March 4, 1773, was the Mrs. Hannah Jones who died at Kings-

ton, Pennsylvania, about 1869. Sarah, born at Groton, Connecticut, March 4, 1773, was the Sarah Hoyt who died at Norwalk, Ohio, in 1858. She first married Peter Grubb, Jr.; after his death she married Mr. Agur Hoyt and removed to Danbury, Connecticut; from there they removed, in 1831, to Norwalk, Ohio. She was the stepmother of Agur B. Hoyt, now of Norwalk, and mother of William R. Hoyt, now of Toledo, Ohio.

Another daughter, Mary, was engaged to be married to James Divine, of Philadelphia. He was at Kingston to visit her, and was one of the victims of July 3, 1778. She never married.

William (fourth), then a lad, escaped the massacre, and, at maturity, married Freelove Hathaway, sister of sea captain Caleb Hathaway, of Philadelphia. Their children were William (fifth), Hallet (third), "James Divine" and Caleb Hathaway.

William (fifth) came to Norwalk, Ohio, in 1818, and, on May 2, 1819, married Salley Boalt, daughter of Captain John Boalt (the first marriage in Norwalk), and their children are: William (sixth), now living in Tiffin, Ohio; Matilda (Mrs. Wm. Bombarger), now of Boulder, Colorado; Mary, dead; Francis, now of Denver, Colorado; Ruth Ann (Mrs. Lafayette S. Lytle,) of Toledo, Ohio; George, of Tiffin, Ohio; Susan (Mrs. Thomas Thresher,) of Granville, Ohio; Samuel C., now of Pueblo, Colorado; James Divine (2d), now of Greensburgh, Indiana; John (2d), now of Boulder, Colorado; Rose (Mrs. Albert Nusley,) of Sandusky City, Ohio).

Hallet (3d) was born at Kingston, Pennsylvania, in 1796, and, upon his birth, a relative at Groton, Connecticut, sent on to his parents the wampum belt given by the friendly Indian to Captain Hallet (1st) in 1775, with the request to name him Hallet. That belt is yet in almost perfect preservation in the possession of Carroll Gallup, of Norwalk, Ohio.

In 1812, Hallet (3d) joined Captain Thomas' company of Pennsylvania volunteers and served in the artillery under Harrison. On being mustered out of service at the close of the war, he, in 1816, came to Bloomingsville, then in Huron county, and, in 1818, came to Norwalk. In 1819 he was appointed collector of the then Huron county. On April 9, 1826, he married Clarissa, daughter of Platt and Sally Benedict, and died in his eighty-second year on July 11, 1877, at Norwalk, Ohio.

His wife, Clarissa, died at Norwalk, Ohio, just six months afterwards, on January 11, 1878, in the eighty-second year of her age.

Their children were: Catharine, now living at Norwalk; Maria, (Mrs. M. A. Dunton) now living at Norwalk; Lydia, died in childhood; Carroll, now living at Norwalk; Sarah, (Mrs. Henry Brown) now living at Norwalk; Eliza, died in infancy; Caleb Hathaway, (second) now living at Norwalk; Lizzie Francis, now living at Norwalk.

James Divine, third son of William, (fourth) spent the greater part of his life as a mining engineer, in

the then just developing coal regions of Pennsylvania, and died at Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, in March, 1856; aged about fifty-eight years: never married.

Caleb Hathaway, fourth son of William, (fourth) was born at Kingston, Pennsylvania, in 1802; came to Norwalk, Ohio, in 1825, and opened a cabinet shop on the lot so long occupied by the late John H. Foster. He died at Norwalk, September 20, 1827; not married.

Caleb Hathaway, (second) whose picture accompanies this memoir, son of Hallett, (third) was born at Norwalk, Ohio, May 10, 1834.

In 1856, he graduated at Madison University, Hamilton, New York, from the "Literary and Scientific Course," and was the first student upon whom that institution conferred the "Degree of Bachelor of Philosophy."

In 1857, he commenced the study of law with Worcester and Pennewell, of Norwalk, and in April, 1858, graduated from the Cincinnati Law School with the "Degree of Bachelor of Laws," and shortly afterwards opened an office at Norwalk.

In 1859, he removed to St. John's, Michigan, and on July 19th, was admitted to practice law in the courts of that State.

The next summer he removed from St. John's to Port Austin, Huron county, Michigan, arriving there on June 24, 1860.

In the fall of that year, he was elected the first prosecuting attorney of that county, to which position he was re-elected for four succeeding terms, holding the office until January 1, 1871,—ten years.

He also held the offices of circuit court commissioner and injunction master during most of the same period, as well as that of township treasurer, and several other minor offices.

During the war of the rebellion, he acted as deputy United States Marshal for the western district of Huron county, Michigan: was himself "drafted" and

instead of being sent to the "front," was ordered back to duty as deputy marshal.

In 1866 he was elected a member of the Michigan legislature for two years, and while acting in that capacity introduced and obtained the passage of a joint resolution calling on Congress to provide for and construct a harbor of refuge at or near Point Au Barques, Lake Huron. He also had printed and circulated, at the different cities bordering the great chain of lakes, a petition to the same end. This was the first step ever taken to obtain such a harbor, and did not meet with immediate success; but it set the movement on foot that eventually culminated in the magnificent harbor of refuge now nearly completed at Sand Beach, Huron county, Michigan. Hundreds of vessels, thousands of sailors and millions of dollars worth of property now find safe shelter there from the terrible storms on lake Huron.

In 1867-8-9 he made repeated efforts to obtain an extension of the Western Union telegraph line from Lexington, seventy miles, to Port Austin, and with success.

June 20, 1860, he married Kate M., daughter of John V., and Mary S. Vredenburg, then of Peru, Huron county, Ohio. She died May 25, 1863.

The issue of that marriage was one son, Richard Carroll, born September 2, 1861, at the Peru farm.

November 3, 1869, married, as second wife, Helen A., daughter of William and Mary Glover, of Trenton, New Jersey, and niece of Hon. Joel Parker, of Freehold, New Jersey, the only person who has twice held the position of governor of that State. She died April 8, 1872, at Port Austin, Michigan, aged twenty-nine years, and is buried at Norwalk, Ohio.

The issue of this second marriage was one daughter, Mabel Parker, born September 17, 1870, and one son, Herbert Alphens, born April 5, 1872, both at Port Austin.

July 9, 1872, removed with his children back to Norwalk, Ohio, his present residence.

WAKEMAN.

ORIGINAL OWNERS.

In the year 1792 the State of Connecticut granted five hundred thousand acres of land, on the west end of the Western Reserve, to those of her inhabitants whose property had been destroyed by fire by the enemy during the revolutionary war. The grantees organized under the name of "The Sufferers' Land Company," and on the 8th of November, 1808, the directors of the company met in the city of New Haven, Connecticut, and devised a plan for a division of the land among its members, which was made by lot.

The four classes drawn for the four sections of Wakeman are exhibited in the following table, the first column of which contains the names of the "sufferers" as the grantees were called. The figures opposite the names show the amount of each individual's loss in pounds, shillings, and pence. The right hand column contains the names of those persons who became owners of the claims, either by purchase or by heirship, and the amounts set opposite their names show the amount paid for the claims in the different sections. The value of each section of the township being arbitrarily fixed at one thousand three hundred and forty-four pounds and seven shillings, each classifier was apportioned a quantity of land in the same ratio to the total amount as the amount of his claim bore to the total value. In the distribution of the lands, which, as previously stated, was made by lot, it sometimes happened that a claimant received land in each section of the township and in other townships.

WAKEMAN, TOWN NUMBER FOUR, IN THE TWENTIETH RANGE.

CLASSIFICATION No. 1, SECTION 1.

Original Grantees	Am't Loss.	Classified by	Am't Closed.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mable Osborne	605 0 2	Jesup Wakeman	336 1 9
John Davis	62 14 11	Ebenezer Jesup, Jr.	59 12 0
Nathan Godfrey	26 16 10	" "	26 16 10
Caleb Disbrow, two rights	114 8 1	" "	58 4 8
Isaac Hays, two rights	18 10 0	" "	18 10 0
Isaac Hubbel	490 6 5½	" "	50 0 5½
Josiah Thatcher	154 9 6½	" "	131 17 5½
John & Daniel Eversley	1961 2 0	Isaac Bronson	236 1 9
Titus Hurlburt	288 2 9	" "	152 14 2
David Burr	67 18 0	" "	67 18 0
N. Thompson Nichols	81 16 0	" "	81 16 0
N. Thompson Nichols	17 8 0	" "	17 8 0
John Whitehead	8 10 0	" "	8 10 0
Abigail Thompson	39 15 0	" "	39 15 0

Footing of Classification No. 1 £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 2, SECTION 2.

Original Grantees	Am't Loss.	Classified by	Am't Closed.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Reuben Beers	510 4 2	Jesup Wakeman	160 14 11
Mabel Osborne	605 0 2	" "	175 6 10
Nathl Wilson	10 17 6	Ebenezer Jesup, Jr.	8 16 11
Thomas Bennitt	3 2 3	" "	3 2 3
Sarah Briant	17 10 0	" "	17 10 0
Jason Disbrow	16 2 4	" "	16 2 4
Hezekiah Hull	10 0 0	" "	10 0 0
John Hyde	47 11 3	" "	47 11 3
John Hyde, Jr.	7 6 3	" "	7 6 3
Joseph Hyde	35 0 0	" "	35 0 0
Benjamin Maker	15 17 4	" "	15 17 4
Rebecca Nash	6 7 5	" "	6 7 5
Peter Whitney	7 9 0	" "	7 9 0
Josiah Bulkley	10 0 0	" "	10 0 0
Samuel Beers	95 8 5	" "	48 1 2½
Francis Forgue	151 16 0	" "	48 15 4
Solomon Gray	1 3 6	" "	1 3 6
Benj. Rumsey	15 0	" "	15 0
John Davis	62 14 11	" "	62 6 11½
Jereb Miller, Esq.	2535 18 10	Isaac Bronson	211 18 11½
Bridget Ledyard	307 11 5	" "	124 2 3½
Seth Sturges	493 6 1	Jesup Wakeman	6 5 8
Stephen Suerney	85 5 4	" "	37 16 7
Moses Bulkley	50 0 0	" "	34 11 6
David Beers	164 4 6	" "	161 4 6
David Burr	388 2 9	" "	92 3 6

Footing of Classification No. 2, £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 3, SECTION 3.

Original Grantees	Am't Loss.	Classified by	Am't Closed.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Stephen Thorp	515 1 8	Jesup Wakeman	80 1 2
John Smethley	763 10 4	" "	190 17 7
Jesup Wakeman	12 9 11	" "	12 9 11
Oliver Bulkley	30 5 3	" "	33 5 3
Abel Gould	113 6 9	" "	27 7 10
David Barlow	374 14 0	Ebenezer Jesup, Jr.	157 2 7
Ann Caldwell	8 8 0	" "	8 8 0
Joseph Gould	17 0 0	" "	17 0 0
Hezekiah Jennings	1 1 9	" "	1 1 0
Martha Jennings	27 18 0	" "	27 18 0
James Penfield	6 12 0	" "	6 12 0
Sarah Redfield	28 15 5	" "	28 15 6
Grace Spaffin	50 1 4	" "	57 12 10
Ebenezer Squire	14 14 4	" "	14 14 4
Richard Wain	5 8 3	" "	5 8 2
Gideon Wells	29 8 8	" "	29 8 8
Nathaniel Wilson	10 17 6	" "	2 0 7
Elizabeth Shapely	382 5 0	Isaac Bronson	135 7 7½
Jereb Miller, Esq.	2535 18 10	" "	210 14 1½
Seth Sturges	493 6 1	Jesup Wakeman	336 1 9

Footing of Classification No. 3, £1,344 7 0

CLASSIFICATION No. 4, SECTION 4.

Original Grantees	Am't Loss.	Classified by	Am't Closed.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mabel Osborne	605 0 2	Jesup Wakeman	93 11 7
Joseph Squire	55 0 6	" "	55 0 6
Stephen Thorp	515 1 8	" "	177 9 8
John & Daniel Eversley	154 9 6½	Ebenezer Jesup, Jr.	22 12 6½
Nathl Benedict	259 12 3	" "	278 9 2½
Titus Hurlburt	1961 3 0	Isaac Bronson	63 10 3½
Ebenezer Holt	15 5 1	" "	15 5 1
Elizabeth Shapely	382 5 0	" "	253 17 4½
Elizah Abel	719 14 4	Jesup Wakeman	251 14 11
Nathaniel Burr	22 18 0	" "	14 15 9
Daniel Goreham	20 2 9	" "	20 2 0
Seth Sturges	493 6 1	" "	40 9 1

Footing of Classification No. 4, £1,344 7 0

NAME.

The township was named for Jesup Wakeman; one of the original proprietors of its soil.

NATURAL APPEARANCE.

The surface is generally undulating, the eastern portion being more rolling than the western. The

Vermillion river enters the township from the south, near the center of the town line, and running a wonderfully crooked course, passes about a mile east of the center and leaves the township a short distance west of the section line. Brandy creek enters the south line of the township, in the southwest part, and forms a junction with the Vermillion a short distance northeast of the center of the town. La Chapelle creek rises in Townsend, enters this township south of the center road and leaves it a mile and a quarter east of the northwest corner. The stream is said to have derived its name from a Frenchman by the name of De La Chapelle, who discovered and explored it to its source, long before the country was settled.

The soil is generally a clay-loam with a mixture of sand and gravel in many places, and is adapted to a varied cultivation. The first settlers found this township heavily timbered, the principal varieties being whitewood, white oak, beech, maple, black walnut, butternut, chestnut, hickory and basswood. On the river bottoms the sycamore, elm and sugar maple were chiefly found.

NATIVE ANIMALS.

The principal species of wild animals originally found in the forests of Wakeman, were the bear, deer, wolf, wild-cat and fox. Bears, though not numerous, were occasionally seen. Deer were very numerous, and were frequently captured. They were the settlers' main dependence for meat, while their skins were used as an article of clothing by the male inhabitants. Suits made wholly of buckskin were worn only when absolute necessity required, a single wetting and drying making them very uncomfortable. It was more generally used for facing the exposed portion of the pantaloons. The neck was sewed on to the seat, and the balance of the hide on to the front of each leg above the knee.

Wolves were plenty, but they were a shy animal, and perhaps were not as often seen as bears. They were exceedingly vexatious to the inhabitants, rendering night hideous with their almost incessant howl, and often attacking and killing sheep if not inclosed in pens. Large hunting parties were sometimes formed for the purpose, chiefly, of ridding the country of them, but they were rarely caught in this manner.

The wild turkey was the most important of the bird species, and was found in great abundance.

INDIANS.

For about ten years after the arrival of the first settlers, a band of Indians, consisting of fifteen or twenty families, came regularly into the township twice a year—in the spring to make maple sugar and in the fall to hunt. They were from the region of Upper Sandusky, and were probably of the Wyandot and Seneca tribes. They made their trips in canoes of their own manufacture, which were made usually out of black walnut or white wood. On their return

their canoes would be loaded with sugar or furs and venison.

In reply to an inquiry from Erastus French, who had a curiosity to know how they would get their boats over the dams across the river, the answer was, "Yankee cow." (They would get a settler with a yoke of oxen to draw their boats around the dams.) They had a sugar camp east of the Vermillion, on land afterwards owned by Mr. Bance. Their huts were made of elm bark, and their sap-troughs of the same. The last time they visited the place was in the spring of 1827. They left everything, evidently expecting to return, but they never came again. The troughs were carefully packed up inside the huts, the doors were tightly closed, and a stick placed against each one, signifying that no one was at home.

On one occasion three Indians came to the house of Erastus French, and presenting a certificate of their honesty from Judge Meeker, asked for a "Yankee back." Mr. French was unable to understand what they meant, until one of the Indians jumped upon a log and gesticulated as if digging out a canoe, when he rightly inferred that an adz was wanted, but had none to give them. They would frequently call at the houses of the settlers for whisky, for which they would invariably offer something in exchange. When refused on the ground that they would get drunk ("cacoesic"), the plea would be "Injun no cacoesic now; cacoesic to-morrow." They would rarely get drunk away from their camp.

Mr. C. C. Canfield relates the following incident of his first sight of Indians: In that portion of the township formerly called the "windfall," there were, in the early settlement, great quantities of blackberries. In the summer of 1817, himself, his brother Royal, Lemuel and Bennett Pierce, all lads whose ages ranged from six to nine years, mounted Captain Pierce's old mare, the only horse in the township that year, and started for the blackberry patch. When they arrived at "the windfall," about a mile west of where the depot now stands, they suddenly discovered a party of Indians only a short distance away, mounted upon their ponies and coming directly toward them. The boys stood not upon the order of their going, but went at once. The old nag developed a rate of speed on that homeward trip of which she had never been suspected. Over logs, brush and mud holes she went, and fortunately arrived at Mr. Canfield's without a boy less. The Indians followed along up to the house, greatly amused at the boys' fright, and with many gesticulations described to the family the appearance of the lads during their flight.

SETTLEMENT.

In 1816, Burton Canfield, Bennett French, Joel Crane, Waite Downs, and other gentlemen living in Southbury, Connecticut, organized themselves into a company and purchased of Wakeman, Bronson and Jesup, section three and subsequently the northern tier of lots of section four, the purchase amounting to

about four thousand eight hundred acres, the price per acre being two dollars.

This company entered into an agreement with the original proprietors, who recognized the benefit it would be to their adjacent lands to have the tract sold, speedily settled, to furnish one settler each year for each one hundred and sixty acres of the purchase until each quarter section should be thus occupied. As the entire tract contained thirty quarter sections, the company had thirty years in which to fill this pledge, and, long before the limit of time was reached, the agreement had been fulfilled.

In consequence largely of the above agreement, the character of the population that took possession of Wakeman was of the genuine Yankee sort; they were, almost without exception, from Connecticut. Most of them came from Southbury, New Haven county, some from Litchfield and Fairfield counties, and a few from other parts of the State.

The first family to take up its abode in the wilderness was that of Augustin Canfield. Mr. Canfield started from New Milford, Litchfield county, with his wife and four children, his brother Burton Canfield, Seymour Johnson and his hired man, for the Fire-lands on the 29th day of April, 1817. While journeying through the "four-mile woods" west of Buffalo, the emigrants experienced a break-down, one of the axletrees of the wagon breaking off at the wheel. The company fortunately possessed sufficient mechanical skill to repair the damage, cutting out a piece of timber from a tree and splicing it on to the remaining part of the axle, and thus completed the journey without further mishap.

Many anecdotes are related illustrative of the condition of the roads through Cattaraugus Swamp, or, more particularly, that portion of it known by early settlers as the "four mile woods." A traveler, seeing a hat floating on the mud, procured a pole and tried to secure it, when a voice from below cried out, "Let me alone; I have a good horse under me, and I shall get through all right."

Mr. Canfield and his associates arrived in Wakeman on the 23d day of May, performing the long journey in about three weeks. He settled on lot number twenty-three in the third section, building his cabin near the location of the present residence of John G. Sherman. The house was fourteen feet square, built of rough logs, with a roof of elm bark and a floor of the same. Two large boxes, or trunks, placed together constituted the only table in the house, and upon which the scanty meal was spread. The house being without a fire place, the cooking was done by a log fire outside. This primitive habitation was occupied about six weeks, when it was replaced by a more substantial log house, in which the family lived until 1822, when it was sold, with seventy acres on the south part of the lot, to Justin Sherman. Mr. Canfield taking up his residence on the north part of the same lot, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died September 16, 1848, aged nearly sixty-five.

Mrs. Canfield died in February, 1861, at the age of nearly seventy-two. They raised a family of five children. C. C. Canfield, the eldest, married Mary E. Hanford, daughter of Jabez Hanford, who settled in Wakeman in 1831. Mr. Canfield has resided in the township for a period of sixty-two consecutive years. Royal R. Canfield was a physician, and died in North Carolina. Sarah Ann (now Mrs. N. W. St. Johns) resides at Oberlin. Harriet (widow of Curtiss Burr), and Burton M. Canfield reside in this township.

The following incident which occurred in the summer of 1817, when there were but three families in the township, will give some idea of the newness of the country at that time. While Mr. Canfield was assisting Captain Pierce in his logging, his family went over to spend the day. At night a thunder shower came up, and it being regarded hazardous for Mrs. Canfield and the children to undertake a journey of *half a mile*, they remained at Mr. Pearce's over night. But there was a cow at home to be milked, and Mr. Canfield had to go. He started on horseback, with his little son Calvert on behind. After going a short distance he lost his path, and being utterly unable to find it again, had no alternative but to make a night of it in the woods. The storm was of great violence, and there was no shelter to be had. He therefore took the saddle from the horse, and placing it on the riven end of a tree that had been blown down by the storm, formed a cover for the boy, while he himself bore the pelting rain, and thus they spent the night. When daylight appeared he found that he had wandered only about thirty rods away from the path.

Burton Canfield, who came in with Augustin Canfield and family, as previously mentioned, returned to Connecticut a few weeks afterward; remained there five or six years, when, with his family of wife and son, he removed to this township.

The next man that penetrated the forests of Wakeman was Amial P. Pierce. He arrived with his family, consisting of wife and four children, and a hired man, about three weeks after the Canfields', making the journey from Connecticut with an ox team. He made his location on the adjoining lot, number twenty-two. He always resided on this location.

He was a man of large size and of great physical strength, excelling in this respect, any other of the pioneers with the exception of Mr. Bristol. He had borne the rank of captain in Connecticut, and the title was applied to him here for many years, and until that of "Squire," owing to his long service as justice of the peace, was substituted.

Mrs. Pierce is said to have been a woman of "strong emotions, firm Christian faith and deep religious experience." She was the only professing Christian in the first three families, and her example and influence was most salutary. It is said that she found it very hard to become reconciled to the new life upon which she had entered. The change from



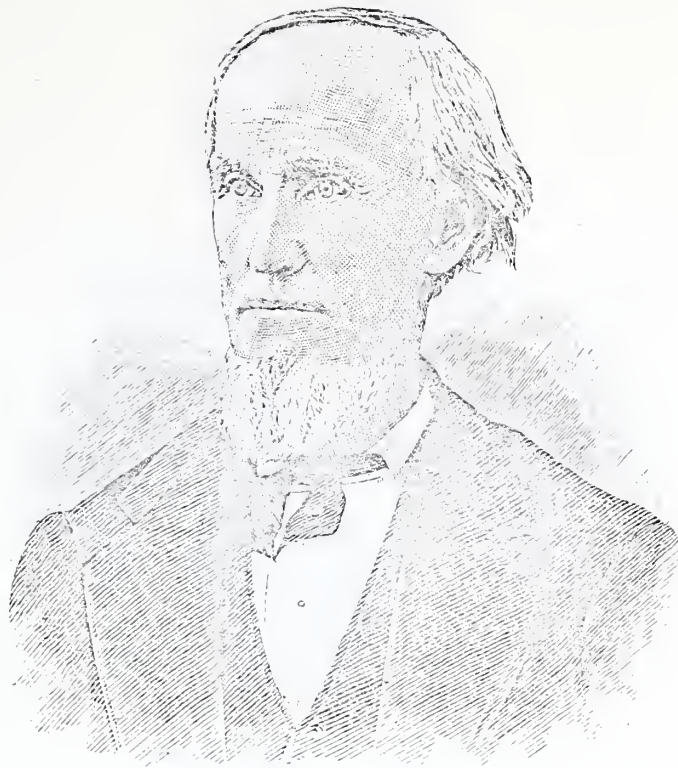
ERI MESNARD

was born at Norwalk, Conn., Oct. 16, 1797. He moved with his father's family to Saratoga Co., N. Y., in the year 1806; thence, in 1818, to Onondaga Co., N. Y., where he married Lucy, daughter of Ebenezer Hill, in the year 1826. His wife died in 1830, and in 1835 he married, for his second wife, Harriet, daughter of Seth Baker, of Lafayette, Onondaga Co., N. Y., and resided at Ithaca, N. Y., until 1836, when he moved to Fairfield, Huron Co., Ohio; thence, in 1843, to Norwalk, in said county, where he remained until the date of his death, Jan. 28, 1879, in the eighty-second year of his age. He was employed as civil engineer, about 1831, on the Ithaca and Owego

Railroad, one of the first railroads built in the United States.

He officiated as county surveyor of Huron County for fourteen years, and did more or less surveying during all the years of his residence in Ohio, though he made farming his principal occupation, being proprietor of the fine farm now owned by his son, Capt. L. B. Mesnard, and located two miles south of Norwalk.

But few men were more widely known or respected throughout the county. He was an exemplary Christian, and a man of sterling worth and integrity. He leaves a son and three daughters, all residents of Huron County.



ANSEL BAKER.

Thomas Baker, the father of the subject of this notice, was a native of Massachusetts. In 1803 he removed with his family to Lafayette, Onondaga Co., N. Y., where Ansel was born, Aug. 4, 1818, being the eighth in a family of ten children. When fourteen years of age he went to live with a married sister in Lafayette, with whom he remained until he was twenty-one. He cast his first vote, at the Presidential election in 1840, for Gen. Harrison, and the next day started on his journey to the distant West, as Ohio was then regarded. After his arrival there he began to work by the month at the hard work of clearing of that early time; working thus in the summer, and teaching school during the winter months, getting forty dollars for a term of three months. At the close of his school-teaching he began work upon the farm for Daniel A. Baker, now of the First National Bank of Norwalk, at eleven dollars per month, continuing two years, at the expiration of which he married Martha S. Foster, daughter of Moses S. Foster, of Peru township, Huron Co., who came from Vermont in 1832. She was born Dec. 21, 1823. After his marriage he rented the farm of his former employer, Mr. Baker, for two years, when he moved to the farm upon which he now resides, in the southeast part of Norwalk township, having made his purchase some four

or five years previous. When he began there this part of the township was very new, the nearest improvement being that of Ezra Wait, west of him, which was then the eastern end of the road. His first purchase of land was fifty-four acres, for which he paid eight dollars per acre. He has since added, and now owns two hundred acres, paying seventy dollars per acre for the last purchase.

His wife died Sept. 20, 1878, having borne him six children, who are all living: Mary Frances, born Jan. 11, 1848, married Chester Robbins in the fall of 1869, and resides on the southeast corner farm of this township; Moses F., born Nov. 26, 1849, has his second wife, and lives in Rice Co., Kan., where he was one of the first settlers; Norman, born Aug. 26, 1855, married Jennie Adams, May 15, 1878, and occupies the farm with his father. Charles Eri, born Jan. 15, 1860, Lewis, born Oct. 4, 1863, and Albert Thomas, born July 21, 1870, are living at home.

Mrs. Fanny Foster, the mother of the deceased wife of Mr. Baker, has lived with her son-in-law about twenty years. Her husband died a few years after his settlement in Peru. Mrs. Foster is now aged nearly eighty-nine years, and is entirely helpless, having sustained an accident to one of her limbs some twelve years since.



HON. JOHN A. WILLIAMSON,

son of the late James Williamson and Phebe Williamson, and, on the maternal side, grandson of Abizah Griffin, one of the early settlers of Greenwich township, was born Sept. 23, 1842, in the township of New London, Huron Co., Ohio. His parents were natives of the Empire State, having been born and reared in Hunter, Greene Co., N. Y., and, removing to Ohio at a comparative early day, were here married in the year 1839. His father was a farmer by occupation, and the subject of this sketch was reared at the family homestead, the old farm still owned by him, upon which the Williamsons originally settled, and which lies in the townships of New London and Fitchville, into the latter of which the residence was transferred in 1852.

Mr. Williamson's youth was passed in a manner of life similar to that of many farmer boys, but, possessing a more than usually vigorous constitution, together with bright and acute intellectual qualities, he began early in life to manifest those traits of mind and character which, in their mature development, have rendered him eminent, professionally and politically. His was naturally an ambitious nature, and so it happened that he could not be satisfied with the education gained in the common schools, but when he had passed through their course of study, chose to avail himself of further opportunities and fit himself for the occupation of higher positions in life than he could attain to without so doing.

At the age of sixteen years he entered upon a course in the preparatory department of Oberlin College, and two years later he became a member of the Freshman class of that institution of learning. He remained until the completion of the Sophomore year, 1862, when that one of many exciting war alarms, the news that the Confederate Gen. Kirby Smith was about to make a raid upon Cincinnati, was flashed through the loyal North, and a call was made for the minute-men of the State to rally to the protection of its chief city. Mr. Williamson, being a strong supporter of the Union sentiment, and feeling that he should do anything that lay within his means to assist the overthrow of the power which menaced our free soil, notwithstanding the reluctance of parental solicitude for the safety of an only child, went out as one of that hastily-summoned and quickly-prepared body of men, as did also many of his class.

After returning from the service of that brief campaign, which by no means, however, promised to be short, he asked for and received an honorable dismissal from Oberlin, and became a member of the Junior class at Yale, from which college he graduated with honors in the year 1864. Immediately after finishing his academic course he entered upon the study of law in the Law School of the University of New York, at Albany, from which he graduated in 1865. The time intervening between this date and 1867 was spent in a law-office in Cincinnati, and in traveling and general reading.

On the 9th of February, 1867, he became deputy clerk of courts in Huron County, under A. B. Griffin, Esq., clerk, which position he held until his resignation, in 1868, for the purpose of entering into a partnership for the practice of law with Hon. W. S. Tennant, at East Saginaw, Mich. In 1869 he removed from East Saginaw to Toledo, where he resided until the spring of 1871, when he removed to Norwalk, in his native county. At this point he has since lived prominently in the eye of the public, and in such manner as to have no cause to fear its watching. He engaged in the practice of his profession, and followed it assiduously and uninterruptedly until 1877, when he was elected to the Legislature as a member of the House of Representatives from Huron County.

Politically, Mr. Williamson is a Republican, and an earnest supporter of the men and measures of that party. He has been a worker for the success of principles and of the best men in the party, rather than a seeker of political preferment for himself. He has not sought place, and in accepting it has only done so in response to the clearly expressed will of his friends and the suffrage of the people.

Mr. Williamson is a man of fine as well as forcible intellectual qualities, an extensive reader and close thinker, of a remarkably practical cast of mind, and yet, withal, alive to whatever there is of beauty in the many refinements of surroundings and of being. He is cautious but firm in his judgments, and reliable. In manner he is social and friendly, and he possesses qualities that readily win admiration and respect, whether from his political compeers, or his private companions and acquaintances.

He was married to Miss Celestia N. Tennant, of Camden, Lorain Co., Ohio, Jan. 13, 1869.



GEORGE BUTT.

George Butt was born in the city of New York, July 24, 1834. At the age of six or seven years his father moved to Illinois, where Mr. Butt spent the earlier years of his active life. While still young he manifested a taste for the fine arts, spending much time in a portrait painter's studio, where he received many impressions that were lasting, and which had much to do with his choice of a profession for life. His bent of mind did not receive encouragement from his parents; on the contrary, they discouraged him, and marked out another pursuit. He was still young when his parents died, and, having no desire for a trade, he grew up to manhood without any special business. His father had left some money for him, but he never received it. At the age of twenty-two, however, he acquired about \$800, which, by judicious speculation, was increased to about \$2000. With this he bought a large tract of land, and tried farming, but was not successful. He lost heavily by the failure of the wheat crops in successive years, and, becoming discouraged, sold out at a great loss.

While visiting Springfield, Ill., he became interested in the aubrotype business, and gave considerable time to the acquirement of the art; but finally gave it up and returned home.

For a year succeeding he was in poor health. In the mean time photography had made rapid advances, and he once more determined to learn the business. Placing himself under the best instructors, he took a thorough course, and again entered the field with very creditable success; but, becoming dissatisfied with his knowledge, he determined to place himself where he could become a thorough master of the art. He accordingly entered a leading gallery as a workman, and labored industriously, and subsequently took private lessons from some of the best artists in the State. In this way he soon made rapid progress, and in a short time was enabled to command good wages.

He eventually, with a partner, purchased a fine establishment in the city of Ottawa, Ill., which was remodeled and thoroughly refitted, but had only been in operation under its new proprietors for the space of three days when it was destroyed by fire, and he found himself in very straitened circumstances. But he was not wholly discouraged, and, adopting the motto, "Where there's a will there's a

way," he borrowed \$150 of a friend, purchased a second-hand traveling car, repaired and refitted it, and, locating himself on the public square, opened for business within a week of the disaster.

In this venture he was eminently successful; but, his quarters proving too narrow for his increasing business, he soon after entered into partnership with an artist of Ottawa. This, however, proved an unprofitable venture, and he very soon sold out his interest.

During the next two years he spent considerable time in Chicago, with the intention of entering into permanent business there. But he finally took the mistaken, though well-meant, advice of a friend, and removed to Ohio, only to meet disappointment. After seeking an eligible location for several months, he eventually located in Newark, when he rented the gallery over the First National Bank, taking possession Oct. 1, 1869, and began business under very discouraging circumstances. For six months his expenditures considerably exceeded his receipts; but, continuing undaunted, at the end of one year his prospects had greatly brightened. In this location he remained five years, at the end of which period his business had entirely outgrown his facilities. He accordingly leased the second story over two stores in the new F inn block, and fitted the rooms at great expense in modern style, and at the present time has one of the largest and most conveniently arranged galleries to be found in any provincial town of the State.

Mr. Butt's reputation as an artist is excellent and wide-spread, and his work extends to every State in the Union. His studio is tastefully arranged and decorated, and is familiarly known throughout the county. He makes the production of large pictures a specialty, and is ably seconded in his business by a competent corps of three or four employes which he keeps constantly at work. His establishment is an honor to the town, and has become a prominent place of resort. Mr. Butt also keeps on hand a fine assortment of artists' goods and materials. His success has been very gratifying.

It is proper, in this connection, to state that Mr. Butt enlisted in the Union army, in 1862. He was commissioned first lieutenant of his company, and remained until disabled by sickness, when he was sent to the hospital and soon after discharged.

JOHN TIFFT, M.D.

The medical profession is the most arduous of all professions, and particularly is this the case in new and thinly-settled localities. Therefore, when we find a man who, for upward of a quarter of a century, and with persistent perseverance and labor, worked in the capacity of family and general physician, many traits of character of an admirable nature are presented. Away back in 1833, when Huron County was comparatively new, and the country consequently but sparsely settled, Dr. John Tift removed here, and, until 1859, uninterruptedly practiced medicine in and around Norwalk.

John Tift is the son of John and Martha (Roe) Tift, the former of whom was born at Exeter, R. I., Oct. 11, 1775, and the latter at Stephentown, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., April 26, 1775.

John Tift, the subject of this sketch, was born at Scipio, Cayuga Co., N. Y., June 11, 1808. He received most of his literary education at the district schools, completing the same at Auburn Academy. On leaving the latter institution he chose the practice of medicine as a profession, and entered the office of Joseph T. Pitney, M.D., at Auburn, for its study. He remained with Dr. Pitney about two years, and then attended the Berkshire Medical Institute, at Pittsfield, Mass.

(a branch of Williams College), from which he was graduated with honors, receiving his diploma, Sept. 5, 1832. He practiced his profession for about one year in York State, and then, in 1832, removed to Norwalk, Ohio, where he commenced a practice which subsequently developed into an extensive and lucrative business.

From 1833 to 1846, Dr. Tift continued in the allopathic school, but in the latter year he changed his mode of practice, and soon became as successful in the homoeo-

pathic as he had been in the regular school. In 1859, losing his wife, he retired from active work, and has since attended to the management and supervision of his property. He is among the oldest living practitioners in Huron County, as he has been among the most successful. He has been twice married,—first to Louisa Fitch, of Auburn, N. Y., in May, 1833, who died Sept. 19, 1859; second, to Nancy V. Earl, Nov. 4, 1862, who is still living. He is a Democrat, and always belonged

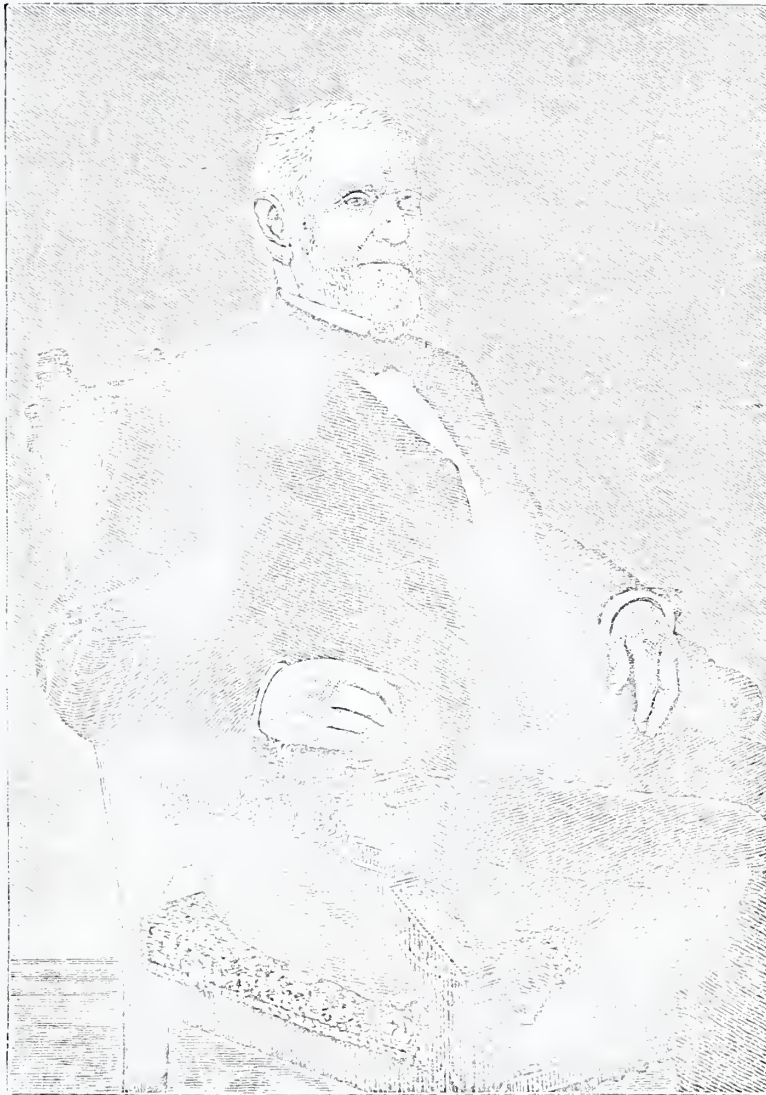
to that political faith. In 1860 he was chosen one of the delegates to the Charleston and Baltimore Conventions. He has held various offices, both professional and political. He was elected one of the trustees of the Homœopathic Medical College of Cleveland; was treasurer of Norwalk township for several years; a member of the corporation council, and mayor of the village in 1872-73. He has occupied the offices in the Cemetery Association of trustee, president, secretary, and treasurer, and to him is due, in a large measure, the present success of that well-managed institution.

In these various positions of honor and trust the doctor has invariably given satisfaction. He brought the same integrity and ability to the fulfillment of his various official duties that made his professional life both

popular and successful. All public enterprises and interests tending to the material development of the community in which

he has lived so long, and attained a reputation so creditable, meets with his ardent support and aid.

He is public-spirited, honest, and fair in his dealings with his fellow-men; and, though affiliated with no particular religious denomination, yet he possesses all the essential qualities of the Christian gentleman and the enterprising citizen that he is.



John Tift

CHARLES B. STICKNEY.

The subject of this sketch was born at Moira, Franklin Co., N. Y., Jan. 20, 1810. He was the oldest of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of Charles and Betsey Stickney.

His father, Capt. Charles Stickney, was born at Cornwall, Addison Co., Vt., May 17, 1785, and his mother, whose maiden name was Pierce, at New Salem, Franklin Co., Mass., April 11, 1790. They were married in the town of Dickinson, Franklin Co., N. Y., April 11, 1809. Both are now dead. They were of English descent. His father's earliest ancestor in America was William Stickney, who came to this country, in 1637, from Hull, Yorkshire, England, and settled with his family at Rowley, Mass. From him it is believed that all bearing the name of Stickney in America are descended.

Mr. Stickney's early years were required by his father on his farm, where he remained until his twenty-first year, engaged in hard work, and receiving only a district-school education, when he was given his time, \$5.50 in money, and the blessing of his kind parents, with which he started forth to seek his fortune.

He entered the academy at Potsdam, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., then in charge of Rev. Asa Brainard, where he remained nearly four years, supporting himself in the mean time by teaching school winters.

His health having become impaired from close application, he reluctantly left the academy and came to Ohio. He reached Ash-tabula County, where he was taken sick at the house of his maternal uncle, Jesse Pierce, in the town of Say-brook, his sickness continuing for nearly six months.

Recovering his health somewhat, he adopted the teaching of penmanship as a means of livelihood, and taught in different places in Western Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Southern Ohio.

In the year 1841 he visited his brother, Hon. E. T. Stickney, at Scipio, Seneca Co., Ohio, and, meeting with a former fellow-student of Potsdam Academy, the late Jairus Kennan, Esq., who was then practicing law at Norwalk, he was induced to enter his office, and commence the study of law. He arrived at Norwalk, Nov. 13, 1841, and pursued his studies with Mr. Kennan. Was admitted to the Bar Aug. 1, 1844, and subsequently to practice in the Federal Courts, at Cleveland, April 12, 1860.

During his term of study he was associated with the late Ezra M. Stone in the preparation of a large number of cases in bankruptcy, under the then existing bankrupt law of the United States.

After he commenced practice he was several times a candidate for prosecuting attorney, always running ahead of his ticket, but not being able to overcome the party odds against him.

The new constitution of Ohio created the Court of Probate, and upon its going into operation, in 1851, Mr.

Stickney was nominated on the Democratic ticket for the new office of judge of said court, and was elected over his competitor, Hon. F. Wickham, by thirty-one majority, having run ahead of his ticket about five hundred votes. He performed the duties of his office faithfully and satisfactorily to all for the term of three years, and was again nominated in 1854. The newly-formed Republican and Know-Nothing parties swept the field, the general majority of the party in Huron County being about sixteen hundred, but the majority for his competitor, Hon. F. Sears, was cut down to about eight hundred.

He has served several terms as a member of the common council, and in April, 1874, was elected mayor of Norwalk, and served two years, being an acceptable and popular officer.

He was for several years school examiner for Huron County, and a member of the Board of Education of the Union School for four years, during which time he was clerk of the Board. He has at all times taken a deep interest in educational matters. He is also a member of the Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences, of which he has been president.

He became a member, by initiation, April 30, 1845, of Huron Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F., and has been a prominent and respected member of the order, holding many of its important offices.

On Feb. 20, 1856, he was elected Most Worthy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, serving one term with distinguished ability. For his faithful and efficient services in this office he received from the Grand Lodge its beautiful and costly medal.

In 1853, Judge Stickney was appointed assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, on the staff of Maj.-Gen.

James A. Jones, 17th Division Ohio Volunteer Militia, and was commissioned by Gov. Chase. He also acted as inspector-general of division.

Judge Stickney, on coming to Norwalk, became a boarder at the Mansion House, then kept by Obadiah Jenney, Esq., and, to the surprise of all, has remained unmarried, and a constant boarder at one hotel, now over thirty-seven years.

Though not a communicant he has long been an attendant at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Norwalk, and has served several years as vestryman and clerk of the vestry, yet charitable and liberal in his religious views toward all church organizations.

Judge Stickney has always had an extensive law practice, and been especially successful as a collection lawyer, and, in the settlement of estates and matters of guardianship, he has been, through his professional life, regarded as an upright man. He is a gentleman of taste and culture, kind and benevolent, esteemed by all who know him, and is an eminently popular member of society.





Erastus Sawyer

The subject of this sketch was born in Auburn, Crawford Co., Ohio, July 13, 1825. His parents, Erastus and Sally Sawyer, were natives of the State of New York. His father's ancestors emigrated to this country from Lancashire, England, and his mother's (whose maiden name was Snider) from Holland. His parents were pioneers in that then wilderness country. He has one brother, Albanus, older, and one sister, Mrs. Lucy Kellogg, younger, than himself, who reside in Crawford County.

He remained upon his father's farm until his seventeenth year, employed in the hard work of the new country, and attending the common school of the neighborhood when there happened to be one. In 1843 he was a student at Norwalk Seminary, and the next year at Granville College, supporting himself during this time, and while studying law, by teaching school winters. In 1845 he commenced the study of the law at Norwalk, and was admitted to the Bar in 1847, and soon had a respectable practice.

In 1850 he was elected prosecuting attorney, which office he held two years, during which time he was successful in breaking up a noted gang of horse thieves, counterfeiters, and professional witnesses who infested the county.

In 1854 he formed a partnership with George H. Safford, which continued until both threw up the profession to enter the army. The firm did an extensive and successful business.

In 1860, at the instance of Gov. Dennison, Mr. Sawyer organized a military company known as the Norwalk Light Guards, and on the 16th day of April, 1861, was ordered into the service for three months, and reported with his company at Camp Dennison as Co. "D," 8th Ohio Volunteers. The regiment soon reorganized for three years, and he was promoted to major, and soon after to lieutenant-colonel. In July the regiment went to Western Virginia and participated in the campaign of that summer. S. S. Carroll, of the U.S.A., was appointed colonel, and took the regiment into the valley in the spring of 1861, where it fought conspicuously in the battle of Winchester. Col. Carroll was there given the command of a brigade, and from this time the regiment was in command of Col. Sawyer. It was then ordered to Harrison's Landing, and became part of the 2d Corps. He commanded the regiment in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Morton's Ford, the Wilderness, and Spottsylvania, and in innumerable skirmishes. In most of these battles he was assigned to difficult positions, and in every instance was complimented by his superior officers for his gallant conduct. At Gettysburg, he was ordered to drive out a rebel force posted in an important position in front of Hancock's battle-line, which was handsomely done with the bayonet, though at a heavy loss. This position he maintained for two days unsupported, and far in advance of the line, although three times attacked by superior force; and finally, charging an advancing column of rebels, took a number of prisoners and three battle-flags. In this battle, and also the battle of Antietam, over one-half of

his men engaged were killed or wounded. His horse was shot from under him at Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Locust Grove. He was severely wounded at Gettysburg, Morton's Ford, and Spottsylvania, at the latter place the wound disabling him from further service and partially paralyzing the left side. During the draft-riots he was sent to the city of New York with his regiment, and occupied a position on Brooklyn Heights until the consummation of the draft.

Promotion was several times tendered him, but he preferred to remain with his "gallant old 8th." His popularity with his men was unbounded, his ability as an officer was conceded, and his absolute bravery in battle unquestioned. The rank of brevet brigadier-general was conferred for meritorious conduct during the war.

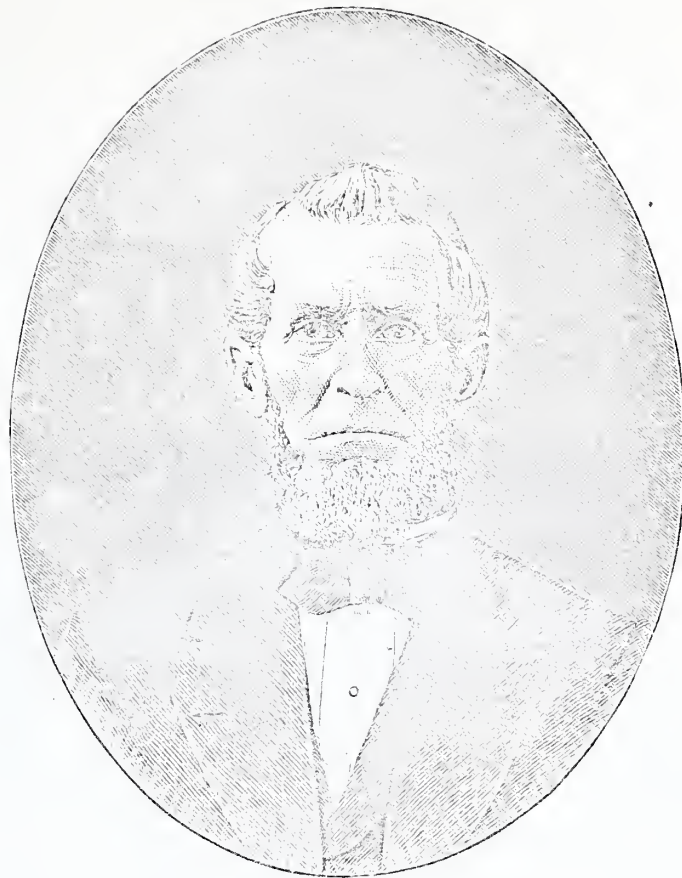
In the fall of 1864 he visited the Ohio troops on the line of the Mississippi, New Orleans, Kentucky, Tennessee, Northern Alabama, and Georgia, on a special commission from Gov. Brough. He then acted as assistant judge advocate in the office of Judge Advocate Gen. Holt, at Washington, until the close of the war, and the triumphal return of the Union army to Washington, in June, 1865.

In 1865 he was elected representative to the Legislature for Huron County on the Republican ticket, and served two sessions. Was a member of the committees on finance, schools, and the agricultural college fund. The *Cleveland Leader*, in a review of this Legislature, said of him: "Few men in the State achieved a brighter reputation in the recent war than Gen. Sawyer, the member for Huron. As a legislator he is chiefly distinguished for his ability in presenting his case and 'dumfounding' his adversary, if anybody has the temerity to oppose him. For real humor, as well as solid argument, he has few superiors. Sometimes his rare blending of humor and argument would convulse with laughter the entire house, and upset the gravity of everybody within hearing."

In May, 1867, he was appointed one of the registers in bankruptcy for the Northern District of Ohio, which office he has held during the existence of the act, a period of over twelve years, being regarded as a careful and impartial officer. He has also during this period continued successfully in his law practice. Gen. Sawyer has always taken a lively interest in the prosperity of Norwalk. He was a trustee of the Norwalk Institute for several years, and until it was discontinued on account of the non-popular public-school system, and was then for fifteen years a member of the board of education of the union schools.

As a lawyer he occupies a prominent position at the Bar, and is regarded as a man of strict integrity; he is an interesting speaker and ready debater, and a thorough student of literature and history.

He was married to Lucinda M. Lathrop, Jan. 30, 1848, who died June 12, 1854. Nov. 29, 1855, he was married to Elizabeth B. Bostwick, of Delaware Co., N. Y., who died Jan. 6, 1878. He has one son, Frank, who is being educated for the profession of the law.



A. G. Post

Among the pioneers of the Fire-Lands, whose long residence and active labors have made them conspicuous, none occupy a more prominent position, and deservedly so, than Ashbel G. Post. Coming here at a time when the then infant settlement was devoid of all those improvements that now add to the convenience and comfort of the people; when the present county of Huron was almost without roads and bridges; when it required hard and persistent labor, toil, and care to make the soil produce enough for the bare necessities of life,—he has lived to witness all the various developments now existing, and in his life and character has assisted in this great work of progress.

Ashbel G. Post is the second child and only son of Ashbel Post, the latter of whom was born in Old Saybrook, Conn., in the year 1767, and died in Huron Co., Ohio, Aug. 14, 1823.

His mother was Betsey Phelps, who died May 26, 1796, in the nineteenth year of her age. Ashbel G. Post was born in Greene Co., N. Y., May 20, 1796, and is consequently in the eighty-third year of his age. His father and uncle, Col. Ezra Post, were among the pioneers of Greene Co., N. Y. The latter had been in the Revolutionary war, and also held a colonel's commission in the army during the war of 1812, and was a member of the Legislature of the State of New York during the palmy days of De Witt Clinton.

Ashbel Post was a man of a somewhat changeable disposition, but of great personal integrity. For seven years he was master of a sailing vessel out of Boston. He subsequently married again and settled on a small farm in Middlesex Co., Conn., and afterward was proprietor of a hotel in the village of Cromwell. In 1821 he came to Ohio, and located between six and seven hundred acres of land in Fitchville. He erected a log cabin, and proceeded to make the necessary improvements preparatory to moving his family, and had nearly completed his arrangements to go East for them when, on the 14th of August, 1823, he died. He left behind him a reputation for industry and perseverance which, had he lived, would have resulted in much happiness and comfort for his family.

It was in July, 1823, that Ashbel G. Post first came West. He was then a young man, ardent in his desire to succeed, and willing to assume the arduous duties of the pioneer. After visiting his father and looking around some, with the intention of coming out to settle, he returned East and soon received the melancholy intelligence of his father's death. In November following he returned to the Fire-Lands, and obtaining his share of his father's estate he went to work, paid off the remaining incumbrance, and from that time all through his active business life succeeded well. In 1836 he removed to Berlin township (now Erie County), where he purchased four hundred acres of land, of which he made the best farm in what now constitutes the two counties of Huron and Erie, and for several years he took the first premium for the most highly cultivated, the best improved, and the neatest farm, thus demonstrating his ability as a good, practical farmer.

Mr. Post has been three times married. His first wife was Tamia Pahaer, with whom he was united Nov. 15, 1824. She died April 1, 1836. They had five children, namely: Sanford G., now resides in Nevada; Fanny P., married and lives in Michigan; Eleanor, married and resides in Vermilion; Wesley (deceased); William H., now resides at home.

For his second wife, Mr. Post married Ellen S. Parmenter, who died March 28, 1855, leaving one daughter, Louisa M., who now resides in Wood Co., Ohio. They had also one son, James A., who died young. For his third partner in life, Mr. Post married Mrs. Fanny M. Platt, of Connecticut, Sept. 24, 1855. In 1829, Mr. Post was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and re-elected in 1832. He is a Democrat in politics, and in religion liberal.

In 1855, Mr. Post sold his six hundred acres in Erie County, and after traveling and visiting his Eastern home, in 1859, he settled in his present residence in Norwalk.

The main characteristics of his long and eminently useful life are his industrious habits, his indomitable energy, and his uncompromising personal integrity. These good qualities he will leave as a worthy example for future generations to follow, and as an imperishable legacy to his children.



RESIDENCE OF A. G. POST, No. 77 WEST MAIN ST., NORWALK, O.

